

COUNTRY LIFE

THE JOURNAL FOR ALL INTERESTED IN
COUNTRY LIFE AND COUNTRY PURSUITS. ILLUSTRATED.

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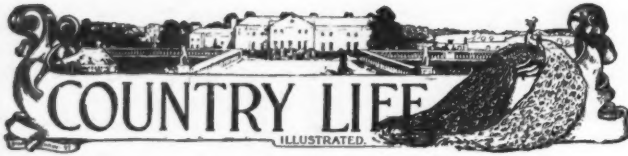
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THE Journal for all interested in

Country Life and Country Pursuits.

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EDITORIAL NOTICE.

The Editor will be glad to receive for consideration photographs, instantaneous or otherwise, besides literary contributions, in the shape of articles and descriptions, as well as short stories, sporting or otherwise, not exceeding 2,000 words. Contributors are specially requested to place their names and addresses on their MSS. and on the backs of photographs. The Editor will not be responsible for the return of artistic or literary contributions which he may not be able to use, and the receipt of a proof must not be taken as evidence that an article is accepted. Publication in COUNTRY LIFE alone will be recognised as acceptance. Where stamps are enclosed, the Editor will do his best to return those contributions which he does not require.

With regard to photographs, the price required for reproduction, together with all descriptive particulars, must be plainly stated. If it is desired that the photographs should be returned, a sufficiently stamped and directed envelope must be enclosed for the purpose.

It must be distinctly understood that no one will be treated with who is not the owner of the copyright of the photograph submitted, or who has not the permission in writing of the owner of the copyright to submit the photograph to the Editor of COUNTRY LIFE for reproduction.

Vols. I., II., and III. of COUNTRY LIFE are now ready, and can be obtained on application to the Publisher. Price, 21s. per volume, bound in green cloth, gilt edges; or in green half-morocco, 25s. per volume. All cheques should be made payable to the Proprietors, COUNTRY LIFE.

Photographic Competition.

THE conductors of COUNTRY LIFE, being in a position of great advantage for the appreciation of the merits of amateur artists in photography, have determined to do all that lies in their power to encourage the efforts of amateurs.

They therefore offer a prize of £5 for the best set of photographs illustrative of wintry scenes at or about an old country house. The photographs should be silver prints, preferably on printing-out paper, and not less than six in number, and must reach the offices of the paper on or before the 31st day of March, 1899. They must be carefully packed, and addressed to the Editor in a parcel marked clearly on the outside with the words "COUNTRY LIFE Photographic Competition." Each individual photograph must also, for purposes of identification, be marked with the name and address of the competitor.

The decision of the Editor in allotting the prize will be final and without appeal; and the Editor desires it to be known that in arriving at his decision he will take into particular consideration the important matter of choice of subject. Snow scenes and hoar frost effects offer, in his opinion, great opportunities, and when episodes in the life of bird or beast can be introduced, the pictures will certainly be regarded with a favourable eye.

The judgment of the Editor will be pronounced in the month of April, and the right of publishing reproductions of the winning pictures will be reserved. Apart from the prize-winning photographs, it is understood the Editor has the right to publish any photographs sent in upon payment of 10s. 6d. for each one used.

Hogmanay.

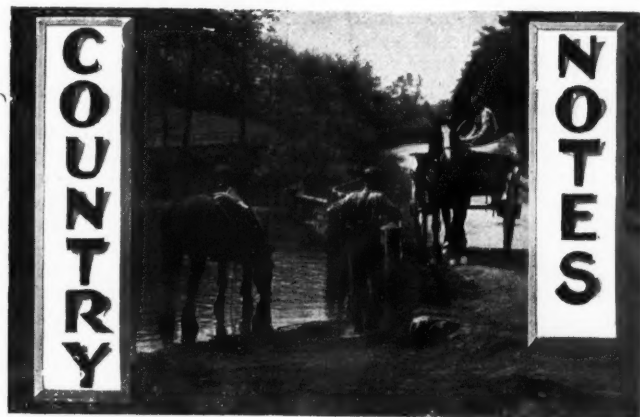
IF anyone were to form his impressions of the Scottish character purely and solely from contemporary fiction, he would have to credit it with about ninety-nine parts in a hundred of sentiment. The typical mother works and starves herself to send the laddie to college; at slight provocation "the saut tear" is shed from the eyes of bearded men; every death-bed is a scene of harrowing pathos; and, in a word, "the finest feelings of our nature" toss and tumble in large waves over this world of fancy. But to the casual but independent observer the Scot is not so, but otherwise. He is somewhat harsh and stern of feature, with about a ha'porth of sentiment to an enormous amount of stern grimness; his humour is so very "slee" and pawky that it is scarcely visible. If there does happen to be "a rantin', roarin', rovin'" lad among them, he is the exception that proves the rule. You may talk of a jolly Englishman and a merry Irishman, but you say a prudent Scot. And, indeed, for twelve months of the year he is sober, not to say sour, of visage alike at kirk and market. Yet although the maudlin creatures of fiction do not exist, we know that there is both a deep vein of poetry in the Scot, and a wild desire to fling off the trammels of convention. There are the old ballads and folk-songs, there are Burns, and Scott, and Carlyle to hear on the one point; and there are some pointed statistics, such as the annual consumption of whisky and the proportion of illegitimate children, to demonstrate the other. Last century—that is to say, in the days of old "Magnum Bonum" and the drinking lairds of Haddington—Scotland was at once the most convivial and the most religious of nations. It is at New Year time, more than any other, that the old characteristics may be seen peeping out from under the veil of decorum. Latterly, indeed, the more genteel circles have set a fashion of keeping Christmas in the English way, but the great mass of the people do not relax till the eve of the New Year. In the country, especially, the children have their innings on the 31st of December. Forming themselves into bands, they visit the houses of all their friends and relatives, opening the proceedings with the old rhyme:

"Get up, guid wife, and shake your feathers,
And dinna think that we are beggars;
We are little bairnies come to play,
So please hand out your hogmanay."

By immemorial custom each has to sing a song before obtaining the oat-cake, ginger-bread, and currant-cake which every good housewife has in readiness. Originally, no doubt, there was some kind of appropriate play to follow; but it has become as obsolete as that at Easter. This is the beginning of the fun, which gradually increases as the winter afternoon wears into night and the men gather in from fields and farms, each with a smile breaking on his usually sombre features. He will be poor indeed, or a very ardent teetotaler, if he has not laid in a stock of whisky for the occasion. There is a general impression, which, however, does not square with the fact, that this fiery beverage—and your average Scot likes something that will warm him up—is rendered appropriate to the New Year by long usage. But it was practically unknown to the "Knights of the Cape" and other convivial associations of last century who met at the famous taverns of Johnnie How and Lucky Middlemass. They mostly drank ale and London porter, while the toping lairds indulged in claret, qualified at intervals by a bass of French brandy or of Hollands. But Audubon, when he visited Edinburgh in 1825, found that "Scottish gentlemen drank their native whisky pure, as if water; but I found it both smoky and fiery." He went out to dinner on Old Year's night, but was told to leave his watch at home because of the lawlessness that prevailed, "the murders and other fearful deeds that were done," even though, taught by past experience, the authorities doubled the watch, and had special illuminations. It is not so bad as that now, but still the scene before the auld iron kirk is worth witnessing. Year by year the Scots in London gather in increasing numbers to witness it at St. Paul's. To see the Old Year out and the New Year in is, indeed, one of the oldest customs. In many a quiet cottage and farmhouse circles of friends keep the same vigil. Until midnight the crowd continues to swell, and when at last the great bell booms the departure of one year and the birth of another, they burst into the old song, "A guid New Year to ane and a', and many may ye see." Flasks are produced by the thousand, and you may hear on every side, "Here's wussin' ye a guid New Year, Sandie," "A guid New Year, Johnnie," and the inevitable "Should auld acquaintance be forgot." In a whip-touch the usual character

of the Scot is wholly laid aside. Davie Deans gives way to Tam o' Shanter, and you think that if the drinking and singing were more uproarious in Audubon's day than now the place must have been like pandemonium.

But this welcoming of the New Year is only the beginning of the fun. It is true that a better spirit is beginning to prevail. The taste of the individual and public opinion have alike been setting against the besotted drunkenness that prevailed early in the century. A host no longer expects that his guests will have to be carried upstairs, nor is he ambitious to make them drop below the table. In streets and public places it is the exception to see any man incapable, and we believe statistics show that the "drunk and disorderly" cases are on the decline. And in addition to this natural change in manners, religious and temperance bodies, by getting up watch-night services, are doing their best to attract people away from this carnival. The consequence is that there is less excess. Yet there are a goodly number who keep up the ancient practice of first-fooling. Nor would we like to see it abolished. After all, people need a safety-valve, and it is a kindly custom. It had its own superstitions in the old time, and in rural districts these have by no means died out. The chief of them was, that if the first visitor to a house on New Year's morning does not carry a gift in his hand, then ill-luck will dog that family for a twelvemonth and a day. There are many stories, and some of them almost classical, to show that this is more than an idle fear. Indeed, like many another foreboding, it often brings its own fulfilment, and "the long arm of coincidence" may account for the rest. Yet there is a certain amount of logic in that, too. Etymologists are not fully agreed as to the origin of the word hogmanay, but if they would forsake their books and consult the great heart of the people, they would find it to be a synonym for whisky.



IT is a pleasant duty to open these notes by calling attention to the photographic competition for amateurs, which is announced immediately after our ordinary editorial notice. While we are by no means without appreciation of the help that has been given to COUNTRY LIFE in its prosperous course by many eminent artists who make photography their profession, we are also sensible of the great advances which have been made by amateur photographers. They excel particularly in artistic choice of the point of view. In setting before them as a subject winter scenes, we have had present to our minds the possibility that the Christmas holidays of 1898-99 may give the opportunity of taking some snow scenes, and the nipping and eager air which surrounds us at the moment of writing encourages the hope that there may still be some real winter. It is our earnest hope that the entries may be numerous; they will certainly not weary the judges.

In our issue of September 24th we gave vivid pictures of the Australian Merino rams Eclipse and Fortune, and we were compelled to draw attention to the mountainous accumulations of wool upon them. They have not been lost sight of; but in the interval a process has taken place which must make it hard for their nearest friends to recognise them. In a word, they have been shorn, and it is to be hoped that the wind is tempered for them, for they have lost a weight of wool respectively which is a record for Australia. Eclipse actually yielded 45½ lb. of wool, and Fortune 43½ lb. "Bruni," in the *Australasian*, observes that to grow the wool and to carry it must have been a great strain on their constitutions. One is sorry for them, but after all wool-bearing was their life's work.

It may not be amiss to point out a danger to which those are especially liable who rent old country houses that have not been used for some while. It seems that it was the custom of old builders to run the big beams of the floor right under the fire-place, with often a hearth-stone of very inadequate thickness between the beam and the fire. Fire insurance offices will tel-

you that a great part of their business is paying insurances on fires that have originated from this cause, the fire so heating the stone that a dangerous degree of the heat is transmitted to the dry and inflammable old beam underneath. Often the stone is worn to a perilous thinness by the fires of ages burning on it, and the beam is as ready to catch fire as if it were touch-wood. There is not much danger if the fire be in a stove; but if it be right down on the stone, or even partially supported by "dogs," the risk is imminent, especially if wood logs be burned, for their ashes continue to smoulder all the night, and never give the stone a chance of cooling down; and logs are the usual fuel on these hearths. Tenants coming into an old country house would do well to have all fire-places of this nature carefully examined, to make sure that there is an adequate thickness of non-inflammable material between the fuel and the woodwork of the house.

The experience of the folk who dwell in the Romney Marsh country might lead them to read the proverb contrariwise: "Break a pasture, break a man." That has been rather their experience in that exceptionally favoured corner of England. The pastures of that country are, perhaps, the finest in the world. They are said to have commanded £5 an acre rent. Yet some poor people have been deluded into the grievous error of breaking up even such a pasture as this, perhaps under the inspiration of the familiar proverb, with the result that their £5 an acre rent has soon vanished, and they have had to try perforce the real "breaking" process—the process of making a pasture again out of that which they had so unwisely turned into arable. But it was not to be done. Pasture, at least of anything like the old quality, was not to be remade in a few years. The history of those old invaluable pastures is lost. They have been pastures, apparently, from the beginning, that is to say, ever since they first emerged from the sea, which no doubt, at no very distant date, overflowed them. The subsoil is of the nature of submerged forest.

Further information regarding the "North Star" sheep of Minnesota will be awaited with interest on this side, and better than any quantity of information would be a few samples for inspection. When the American papers extol the new breed as "without a rival," we must recollect that the American himself is the last man to believe all that appears in his papers. In saying, however, that the "North Stars" have been produced by judicious crossing of Shropshire, Southdown, and Lincoln sheep, they at least indicate a reasonable road to excellence; and a contingency for which our farmers must always be prepared is the possible evolution of distinctly superior breeds of our domestic animals in the New World. The difference of atmosphere, climate, and vegetation are factors which must have effect. We see it in the production of the American type of manhood, and, though we may not admit any superiority so far as that is concerned, it may be undeniable in sheep. Australians have shown us (*vide* the illustrations which we published a few months ago) what miracles can be wrought in covering every inch of a sheep's body with abundant wool; why should not America produce a champion combination of wool and mutton? And as neither Australians nor Americans have ever been backward in buying stock from us for breeding purposes, we hope that our farmers will not be slow to buy the best that America can produce if our own stock can thereby be improved.

The British officer shooting in wild country often has opportunities of very mixed sport, but it is not often that a subaltern on ten days' leave gets a chance of adding two fine Waziris to his "bag." Yet this has happened in the Kurram Valley, thence: The Waziris—especially the Mahsud variety—are human beasts of prey, who swoop down from their hills upon the Ghilzais under our protection and carry off their flocks and herds, after slaying the custodians. The officer in question was out shooting with a small escort, when he came across three Waziris driving off a herd of Ghilzai goats. He succeeded in killing two of the raiders, and brought back the goats in triumph. Thus British officers on the Indian Frontier combine sport and service; and he who takes his rifle in his hand in a Pathan country knows that to a certain extent he takes his life also. If he does not take his rifle, he might just as well leave his life behind too.

And not all the centuries of civilisation have cured the British man of the fierce instinct which leads him, on the wild fringe of the Empire, to find that the most exciting form of sport is that in which man hunts man. That he is only performing his duty as a soldier does not make the excitement less. Wherefore we sympathise with the two Ghoorkas once told off to look after a couple of Pathan "snipers," who, from among the rocks of a neighbouring hill-crest, were making things unpleasant for our retiring rear-guard. As the column wound its slow way along the rocky pass, the two Ghoorkas went up the hillside, creeping like cats from rock to rock, towards a point of vantage

which the Pathans, keeping within range of the column, must pass. There was no more "sniping"; but, alas, at nightfall, when roll was called in camp, the two Ghoorkas were missing. Lost in the midst of a fanatical enemy's country, they were given up for lost; but at dawn next morning two little Ghoorkas, very tired, very dirty, and very jubilant, stumbled into camp. "We got them both," they reported. The Pathans had scented danger and made a detour; but the Ghoorkas had still stalked them from hill to hill, like weasels after a rabbit, and in the end they "got them both."

Boxing Day, with its festivities and pantomimes, is past, and it may be no bad thing to refresh our memories as to the meaning of the phrase. Its origin, according to Dr. Brewer, was ecclesiastical. In the days of early Christianity boxes were placed in churches for promiscuous charities, and the contents, subsequently distributed by the priests, were called the "dole of the Christmas-box" or "box-money." Heads of houses also gave small sums of money to their subordinates to place "in the box" before mass on Christmas Day. "Somewhat later, apprentices carried a box round to their masters' customers for small gratuities. The custom, since 1836, has been gradually dying out." Is that so? The box may have fallen into disuse; the habit of collecting money has grown more pertinacious. It can still be said:

"Gladly the boy, with Christmas-box in hand,
Throughout the town his devious route pursues."

But it certainly cannot be added,

"And of his master's customers implores
The yearly mite."

There is no tone of entreaty or imploring in his tone. He and his fellows advance in solid columns, and the message follows, "He has come for his Christmas-box." The custom, in fact, has lost all geniality and kindness; it has become a tax which can be met only by forbidding the transmission of any such messages. A list of worthy beneficiaries, or of those who will injure you if you refuse to be blackmailed, should be left with a servant supplied with the necessary funds. It saves annoyance; and as for thanks—nobody ever dreams of offering them.

Again we have to call attention to a murderous attack upon a gamekeeper, of what is fast becoming the normal type. Summers, a keeper in the employ of Lord Ancaster, with three comrades, on Christmas Eve came across two poachers on his Lordship's Grimthorpe estate. One of the poachers shot at sight, shattered Summers's arm, which had to be amputated, and, when pursued by another keeper, threatened him with a loaded gun. These attempts at murder by poachers have become far too common, and it is high time for plain speaking as to the cause of the nuisance. It is to be found in the fact, which is perfectly well known to country gentlemen who serve on grand juries, that certain judges look with a very lenient eye upon poachers, and with severe and even prejudiced eye upon keepers, where both parties have used firearms. A very striking example of this, in the year 1884 or thereabouts, is still fresh in the memory of Cheshire. The consequence is that it has become the rule for keepers to go out unarmed, or with sticks only, knowing that they will have to face desperate men armed with guns. To put matters bluntly, this rule, and the cause of it, are a cruel injustice. Judges have to be reminded from time to time that their business is to execute the law, not to make, to criticise, or to distort it. In any case, it is worth while to remember that the poacher is a professional law-breaker, against whom the keeper, to do his duty, must contend at the risk of his life.

A correspondent writes: "A few days ago my good wife, in the pursuance of her duty or pastime of paying calls, met a lady who induced her to buy two fowls through the agency of the Welsh Home Industries' Association. They arrived unprepared, feathers and all, and there was lamentation. But when they came to table sorrow was turned into joy, for they were tender and of great size, having regard to their very moderate price. But for the father of the family, who had to carve, there was greater joy still in waiting, for, wonder of wonders, the breast bones had not been beaten in with a brick or a mallet, and great slices of tender meat could be cut from the breasts. Far different was the Christmas turkey, which, in outward semblance, was worthy of the rhapsody in 'Orley Farm.' No sooner was the carving-knife in than the breast, which looked a treasure of delicate slices, was found to be a mere chaos of splintered bones and pounded flesh artfully concealed under a well-browned skin. The poulterer's hand had ruined that which Nature and the farmer's wife had previously brought very near to perfection. When will poulterers learn to desist from this foolish and wasteful practice? Not, we fancy, until customers refuse to accept the shattered carcasses of poultry; but one or two such refusals have been found very efficacious."

A good story comes by way of a City journal and the *Daily Mail* from Merchant Taylors' Hall; and we are in the happy position of being able to cap it. The Merchant Taylors' story is of a patient at the Company's convalescent home in Sussex, who complained that the country milk was vastly inferior to that supplied in London. The latter was always clear—too often, indeed, it is almost translucent—the former had a thick "upper crust." The patient had discovered cream as innocently as Charles Lamb's Chinaman hit upon crackling. Our own story is of a Londoner—quite a luxurious Londoner, too—and a country egg. He complained bitterly because the white of the boiled egg had that creamy, curd-like consistence which is the sure sign of absolute freshness; and it took him some time to acquire the taste for a really new-laid egg which could be eaten without pepper.

Ira Fitch, who lived at Williams, which is somewhere in America—for our purposes he might just as well have been Ira Williams living at Fitch—until life became no longer bearable, was a cheap modern edition of Alcibiades. Fitch, it seems, was irresistibly beautiful. It did not matter what steps he took to disguise his fatal charms. According to the *Boston Herald*, he would go unshorn and in uncleaned boots for days together, and certainly there are no more efficacious methods by which the average man can make himself repulsive to view. But the women mobbed and pestered him just the same, and, according to the evidence of some of them, married and single, at the inquest, he could not help exercising over them such strong power that they were willing to fall down and worship him. There had to be an inquest on the body of Fitch, for the attentions of his admirers were more than he could bear, and he was willing to give his life for the price of escape. Poor Fitch! Had he enjoyed a classical education he would have known that Alcibiades, a man no less beautiful, suffered from the same nuisance. But he had a short way with his persecutors. He carried a club, and used it freely. It was ungallant, it may be; but it was better than suicide.

It would seem as if that cruel and cowardly outrage of hound poisoning was again assuming an epidemic form in Ireland. Not so very long ago a few hounds of the Limerick Hunt were poisoned, but a much more serious outrage was perpetrated on the South Unions while drawing a covert near Annesgrove, County Cork, recently, when no less than six couples were poisoned. This has created the greatest consternation amongst the followers of this popular hunt. The South Unions have given capital sport for the last few seasons, and no cause can be given why any animosity should exist against them. The Master (Mr. R. H. Hayes) is a very popular man. He hunted the South Unions from 1891 to 1895, and took up the Mastership again in 1896, after Major Stopford had hunted them for a season. The hunt secretary, Mr. Eyre Powell, of Mount Prospect, is also a well-known and a most popular sportsman.

At a late meet of the Meath Hounds at Dunboyne, the rather singular spectacle of about a dozen sergeants of the gallant K.D.G's., in uniform, riding with the hounds was to be witnessed. The circumstance has given rise to a good deal of talk, some irate taxpayers asking whether they have to pay for hunters for our non-commissioned officers to enjoy themselves on. A season or two ago the non-commissioned officers of a sporting Hussar regiment, then stationed at the Curragh, used to turn out regularly with the Kildares. No objection was made to their doing so, though, at times, they used to rather inconvenience the field by a tendency on the part of the troop horses to get into line and charge their fences in this formation. The irate taxpayer has his excuses; but our desire to encourage hunting is so strong that we are inclined to suspect that there may be some explanation tending to show that the property of the State is not being risked recklessly. Somebody may have given a guarantee to pay for accidents.

In some of the Southern Counties the partridges are already—before January—disposing themselves in pairs, as if they were deluded into the notion that we have no hard weather coming, to make up for the spring-like mildness of the first half of our winter. Rooks, too, are showing signs of a similar delusion, and the bullfinches are coming about our orchards, and are busy in picking out the premature buds of the plum trees, which seem no less deluded than the birds themselves. It is almost one's bounden duty to wage war against the bullfinches, or at least to take means for scaring them away in the early springtide, jolly little birds though they are; but at this time of year, if the plum buds are unwise and precocious enough to obtrude themselves, we may perhaps allow the bullfinches to do their worst on them without interference, for it is not likely that any buds now sprouting can fail to be nipped by the frosts that are bound to come. Our hope must be that it may come soon, before the "green things growing" are developed enough to take harm from them.

At last the long-talked-of Association of Show Officials appears to be fairly launched, it having been decided at a large and representative meeting of secretaries and managers that the same be established. Meanwhile a sub-committee, composed of Mr. A. H. Edwardson (Birkenhead Show), Mr. J. T. Brown (Tring Show), Mr. K. MacRae (Belfast Show), and Mr. J. Russell (Glasgow Show), has been appointed to co-operate with the secretary of the association, Mr. Vero Shaw, in framing rules for consideration at the next meeting, Mr. T. F. Plowman, of the Bath and West and Southern Counties' Society, having kindly undertaken to afford the members assistance in their labours. Such an association will no doubt form a valuable medium for communication between agricultural and horse shows and exhibitions; consequently its future will be regarded sympathetically by most country gentlemen.

A survival of an ancient custom, interesting if not commendable, has made its appearance in a magistrates' court in Carmarthenshire, where one Mary Hughes, of Abercawsin, brought forward a novel, or else very antique, defence against a charge of selling intoxicating drink without a licence. Her excuse was that she had sold no liquor, although liquor had passed to her friends, and money had passed to her. There had been two weddings in the house that day, and the "neithior," or wedding feast, had been held. It had been marked by a "bidding"; that is to say, Mrs. Hughes had supplied beer

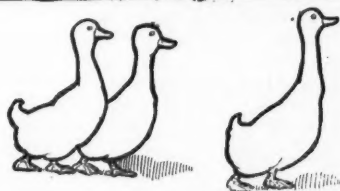
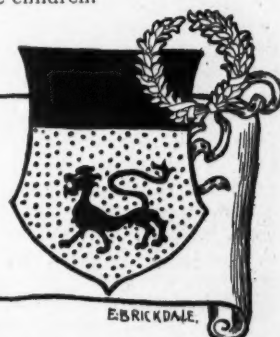
gratis, and her guests had consumed it, and they had made presents in money. Her advocate observed that "she had only done what every country gentleman would have done on a larger scale, the only difference being that the presents received were in coin and not in kind." He was a bold man, for one gives the wedding present before the breakfast, not after it, in another class of life. Meanwhile it may be worth while to note that the custom is ancient, and not exclusively Welsh. Howitt, in his "History of England," says of the times of Charles I., "Denham, in 1634, issued an order in the Western circuit to put an end to the disorders attending church-ales, bid-ales, clerk-ales, and the like." And Brewer defines "bid-ale" as "an invitation to friends to assemble at the house of a poor man and drink ale, and thus to raise alms for his relief."

Our Portrait Illustration.

MRS. BOYCE-COMBE, who was married a short time since at St. Peter's Church, Eaton Square, to Captain Boyce-Combe, of the 11th Hussars, is the younger daughter of the late Major-General Sir Henry Tombs, V.C., K.C.B. Hers was distinctly a pretty wedding, inasmuch as all the seven bridesmaids, in pale blue satin and creamy chiffon, and the pages in scarlet cloth, were little children.



PROFITABLE POULTRY



the time of the year and size of the hens and eggs, the average number being 13, but in the cold weather it is safer to reduce them to 10 or 11. The wire floor of the nest box may be covered with a piece of turf, or straw, and should be sprinkled with insect powder, in

order to protect the hen from the attacks of parasites, and it is most desirable that the front should be closed, so as to ensure her being undisturbed.

It is only necessary to feed a sitting hen once a day, and she should be taken off the nest for the purpose of eating her food and enjoying the luxury of a dust bath which should be provided her, the period of relaxation being from 10min. to 12min. At the end of a week the eggs can be examined, in order to test their fertility, the method of doing so being to hold

each egg in turn against an oblong hole that has been cut in a piece of black cardboard, a strong light being placed behind the aperture, so that the contents of the egg can be made visible. If these are dark the eggs are fertile; if clear they are of no use for hatching purposes, and may be removed. In view of the possibility that there may be several clear eggs, it is a good plan to set two or more hens at the same time, so that all the fertile eggs may be placed under one hen, and the remainder be employed to try their fortunes with a

HAVING arranged his poultry yard to his satisfaction and selected his fowls, the next thing for their owner to do is to make the birds profitable. Assuming, therefore, that he is commencing operations at the present season of the year, he will have to arrange for the setting of his hens, though unless he has supplied himself with some silkies or suitable birds he may experience a difficulty in finding a sufficiency of these. As a preliminary measure, however, he can be preparing the nest boxes for the reception of their future occupants—an illustration of the best kind of nest box has already appeared—by placing them in rows in a quiet shed away from other birds. The hen and eggs being ready, it is a wise precaution to try the bird for a day upon some china eggs, to ascertain whether she is really broody; but having decided that she is likely to sit close, the eggs may be placed under her gently, the best time for doing so being the late evening after it is dark, so that she will not be unsettled. The number of eggs will, of course, vary according to



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SCOTS GREYS.

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new sitting. It may be added that the unfertile eggs are fit for cooking purposes if necessary; if not, they can be utilised for making boiled custards for the young chickens which may be about the premises.

After having tested the eggs, there is not much for the poultry keeper to do until they begin to hatch out, the period of incubation being twenty-one days, and the chickens are usually pretty punctual in making their appearance. When they leave their shells the young birds will require no food at all for the first twenty-four hours, Nature having provided sufficient nourishment for them in the shape of the yolks of the eggs they have inhabited. Consequently, the barbarous practice which obtains in some benighted districts of forcing a pepper-corn down the throats of unfortunate chickens is absolutely unnecessary, as the first meal should consist of a little boiled custard pudding squeezed dry, or some of the specially-prepared chicken foods, though judgment should be exercised in the purchase of the latter, some of the cheaper manufactures being prejudicial to the health of the birds. Then a little grit, or canary or millet seed, may be added to the food, which should be placed in small quantities outside the coops to which the hen and her brood have been removed when the latter were twenty-four hours old.

If possible, the coops should be placed out of doors, and if their situation is a field, the grass should be cut short for a few feet round them, lest the chickens stray away and become lost. Under no circumstances, however, should poultry, and especially young birds, be kept on boarded floors, as these invariably produce cramp and other troubles in the legs and feet. The position of the coop should be moved every two or three days, for sanitary purposes, and the mother bird should be kept closely confined until the chicks are strong enough to follow her about without becoming exhausted, which will probably be the case when they are about a fortnight old. Some breeders on a large scale find it convenient to tether the hen during the day by one leg to a stake driven into a garden bed or on the lawn; but for the amateur this is scarcely necessary, especially as in unskilful hands the tethering process involves some risk of accident to the hen.

When a number of chickens of all ages are upon the premises, it will be found that the older and more vigorous birds soon begin to bully the smaller ones and deprive them of their food, and to obviate this the precaution should be adopted of having a net



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RELEASE FROM CONFINEMENT.

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wire-frame made, in which the food for the smaller birds can be placed. Their small size enables them to squeeze through the meshes and enjoy their meals undisturbed, and if a piece of sacking is placed over the top, a welcome protection against the rays of the sun will be provided. Chickens, and particularly young ones, should be fed frequently, and no more food should be given them at a time than they will eat readily—this is an important matter, as soiled food is certain to affect their health; but as they get older and can forage for themselves the number of meals may be reduced. Regarding the treatment of chickens after they have left the hen, there is not much to be said that differs from what will follow concerning the management and feeding of adult fowls; but it is desirable that the young birds should be kept as much as possible away from the old ones, and that the sexes should be divided as soon as it is possible to decide which birds are cockerels and which pullets. It is not necessary, but rather the reverse, that any perches should be provided for the young birds to roost upon, as contact with the hard wood is very apt to produce crookedness of breast bones, which is a fatal fault in a table fowl. Consequently it is preferable to lay some straw upon the floor of the chicken sheds for the birds to rest upon during the night.

In addition to the feeding of his birds, the owner of a poultry establishment will find plenty to occupy his attention during the year. In the first place the condition of the roofs and the wirework should be attended to periodically, as dilapidations which commence in a small way soon increase into formidable matters; and whilst they are getting worse the birds are suffering discomfort, which results in a diminution of their productiveness. It is essential, too, that the floors of the roosting houses should be dug over—the best bottom for a poultry shed is earth beaten down hard—and the tainted top layer replaced by fresh mould; whilst in the case of small runs, these will also have to be cleaned out.

Green food is absolutely necessary for the health of fowls, and consequently birds which are kept in confinement must be provided with a daily supply. Cabbage leaves, lettuces, grass, and, upon an emergency, swedes, all form welcome changes; and it is an excellent plan to suspend a cabbage or half a swede from the roof, and within a few inches, for the fowls to peck at. This fulfils a double purpose, as in the first place the vegetables are saved from being trodden under foot and soiled; whilst, secondly, the fact that they have to jump up and exert themselves to reach the food provides them



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OLD ENGLISH GAME FOWL.

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with exercise and occupation. A life of laziness is one of the worst evils that can beset a fowl, and consequently anything that can be done in the way of providing relaxation for such birds as may be kept in confinement should be secured them. A handful of grain scattered over a little chaff in the outside run will keep them scratching for hours to secure the delicate morsels which they so much enjoy, and as their pleasure is conducive to health, by all means let them enjoy themselves.

It is necessary to effect a thorough overhauling of the sheds, runs, and their contents at least once a year, the best time for doing so being, perhaps, the month of September, by which time many of the birds will be in moult. When such operations are in progress, it is the best plan to turn all the fowls out of their own shed into another one, so that they will not be upset by the presence of strangers. First of all, the condition of the roofs should be closely inspected, and if these are constructed of wood and felt they should be re-pitched and made thoroughly proof against the ravages of autumnal rains and winter snowstorms. All cracks and rents in the timber of the outsides should be carefully patched, and then a move can be made to the interior, where much work will be found to be done. First of all the perches must be removed—they should always be temporary fixtures to facilitate this—and then the whole of the roofs and sides should be thoroughly dressed with boiling lime-wash, in which some disinfectant such as carbolic acid has been liberally mixed.

Every nook and crevice in the woodwork must be explored by the brush if the intention of the owner is to eradicate the vermin which harbour there; and after they have been thoroughly scraped, the perches should be treated to a similar dressing and then left outside to dry. Then it will be time to see to the earthen floor, and when all that is necessary has been done there, the perches can be replaced, and the sheds, as soon as they are dry, will be ready for the reception of their feathered occupants.

Every attention should be paid to cleanliness in connection with the feeding of fowls, for although they possess the bad taste to prefer eating off the ground instead of from elaborate troughs or basins, their health will soon suffer if the vessels water is boiled in, or the corn bin, are dirty. The condition of the drinking fountains should also be a matter of consideration, as if not constantly swilled out these soon become foul and slimy, to the ill-being of the birds.

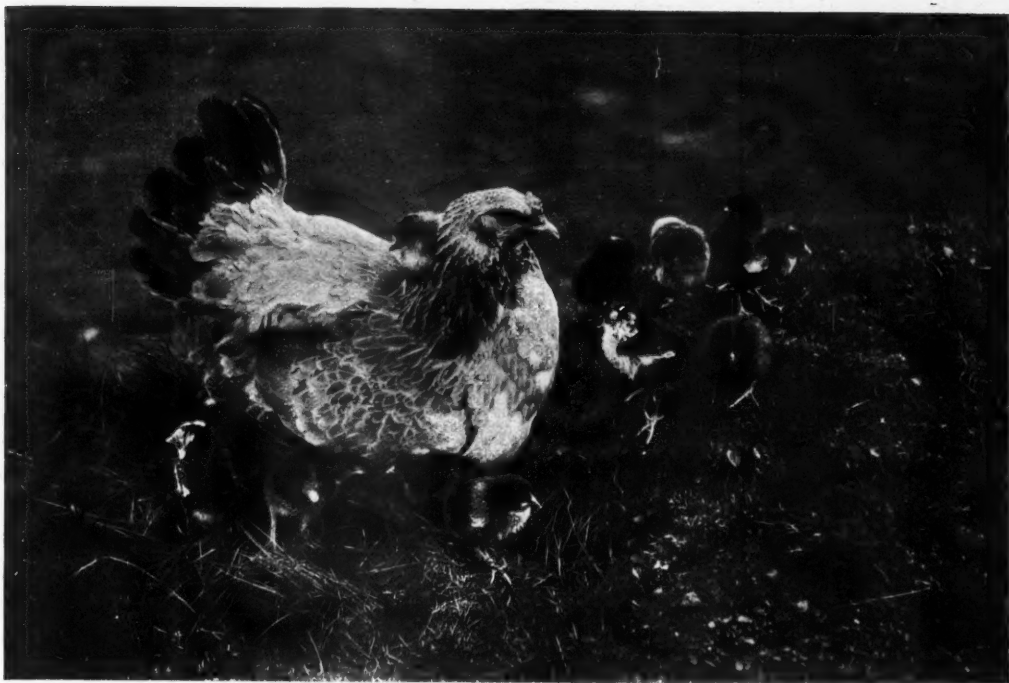
(To be continued.)

Mamma's Speech.

LAST Monday week mamma made a speech. I do not of course mean the sort of speech she makes to the boys or to papa when they forget to post an important letter or are late for dinner, but a real public oration.

It was down in Devonshire, at a little place called Milne, that mamma addressed the "Deep Sea Sailors" at the Deep Sea Sailors' Mission Hall. When papa first informed her that he wished her to say a few words to the sailors, she flatly refused to do anything of the kind; she said she was far too nervous. Papa said he had not noticed any particular signs of nervousness about her when she "held forth" to her family, and that, on the contrary, he had always found her to be a very fluent speaker; but mamma said that was quite different—she was used to us; by which I suppose she meant that with us she had long since reached that stage of familiarity which breeds contempt.

Personally I consider that she is both a clear and a coherent speaker—exceedingly coherent, in fact, when she is what my brother Bob vulgarly calls "on the job" over our delinquencies. But, of course, haranguing the mere members of her own family and addressing a meeting of the Deep Sea Sailors in public are two very different things, and as the great day approached she grew very nervous.



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FIRST DAY OUT OF THE COOP.

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She said she knew she should break down, and she did not know what on earth she was going to say, and she consulted papa as to whether she should be "simply nautical" or "severely religious." He said he thought a little of both would be quite suitable. This was not mamma's maiden speech. She once spoke at a Female Suffrage meeting in Marketshire, but she said she found that comparatively easy, as women are such sympathetic listeners, and never show it, even if they differ from you. I do not quite agree with this sentiment; but mamma is a person of supreme tact, and on that occasion she certainly managed to please both sides of the party.

She did it this way: she prefaced all her most scathing remarks with the softening words "as my husband said to me the other day." This was exceedingly clever of her, as those amongst the "females" who agreed with her felt that she was adding weight and dignity to their views, while those who disagreed thought she was merely contemptuously quoting those of a mere man, a husband, a monster.

Unfortunately there was nothing in mamma's speech on Female Suffrage that she could use up for the Leep Sea Sailors, and she said she really knew nothing of her subject and felt quite restless and nervous.

She frequently asked me what she should say, and one morning she looked up from her accounts and said suddenly, "How does this sound, Dot? 'I have a great and deep sympathy with all sailors. I think they are the most noble and unselfish of men. Self-forgetfulness in an hour of danger—'" Here I gently interrupted her, "Isn't that one of the things you wrote down in papa's notes when you were helping him to think out the extempore speech he expected to have to make to the South Devon Fire Brigade?" It was, and mamma returned with renewed ardour to her accounts.

I think her speech began to quite get on her mind, for I used to meet her wandering up and down the passages giving herself free lessons in elocution, and I think she greatly astonished the young men in the grocery department at the Stores, and the young ladies in the millinery department at Marshall's, by muttering to herself, as she mechanically took her bill, "It gives me great pleasure to find myself here amongst you."

At last the day arrived, and Bob and I sat listening in breathless silence. Mamma looked delightful, and the sailors stared at her with open admiration and approval. She did not appear to be at all nervous when the time came, but seemed quite at home with her subject, and made an excellent speech, which lasted nearly half-an-hour. Bob was delighted with it, and whispered irreverently to me, "There's no stopping the mater when she's once wound up, is there, Dot?" Mamma seemed carried away by her own eloquence, and worked her hearers up to such a pitch of feeling when she spoke of the anxiety she felt for them whenever there was a storm (this anxiety was hardly necessary, as she was addressing a body entirely composed of old and disabled seamen) that two elderly men wiped their eyes with the back of their hands, and one of them murmured, audibly, "Gord bless 'er tender 'cart."

They listened very earnestly and applauded loudly while she told them how dearly she loved the sea, so dearly indeed, she said, that her one wish had always been that her own boys could have been sailors. This statement was received with particular enthusiasm by everyone excepting Bob, who, having tried in vain for the last year to persuade her to let him join the Navy, whispered gloomily to me, "By gum, Dot, I never could have thought the mater would have told such a *whopper*." However, mamma was quite sincere, and, at any rate for the moment, meant so entirely what she said, that I believe she had quite forgotten she had ever suffered from such a thing as seasickness, or had ever felt frantic with fear when papa crossed the Channel. The men cheered her vociferously, and papa looked very pleased and proud, although I fancied his face fell a little, when I asked him if he did not think that women were much more fluent than men, as he answered testily, "Certainly not; what nonsense!" I believe he actually felt a slight pang of jealousy; but I may have been mistaken.

When the meeting was over, papa and Bob went outside to look for the carriage. As mamma and I were standing behind a door away from the draught, we heard two old men discussing her speech.

"Shall we move away, dear mamma?" I asked, knowing the ancient but true adage about listeners.

"Certainly not," replied mamma hastily; "I should love to hear what they thought of it. I think they felt that I understood them, Dot," she continued, a little anxiously. "They felt my heart was in their cause, and that I entered into their feelings, didn't they?"

"I am quite sure they did, dear mamma," I answered reassuringly; and we listened.

"She's a werry good speaker, aint she?" murmured old man number one, thoughtfully; mamma smiled and preened herself.

Number two chewed something for a moment, and then spat violently on the ground. "The wimmin," he said slowly, "is wonderful speakers, Bill—they tork and tork, for torkin's sake, without meaning one 'arf o' wot they say, and without knowin' one 'arf o' wot they're torkin' about. The only difficulty *they* 'ave," he added with deep contempt, "is in stoppin' theirselves."

"I don't know, judging by wot 'e said at the bazaar, but wot she's not a better speaker than 'e is," murmured number one tentatively. Mamma recovered a little and looked pleased.

"She get's more *practice*," averred number two decidedly.

"More practice? Wy, I thought 'e spoke at the 'Ouse o' Commons every night."

"That's as it may be," answered number two, nodding his head gravely; "p'r'aps 'e may tork all the evenin', and p'r'aps 'e mayn't tork all the evenin', but you may bet your boots *she* torks the 'ole of the day."

Mamma turned very red.

"Dot," she whispered, as they moved off; "Dot, dear, don't—er—mention this little conversation to your papa or—or to the boys" (I thought of Bob). "I think"—with a sudden access of virtue—"that it was perhaps a *little* mean of us to listen, and the least we can do is to try to forget it; don't you think so? You—you won't mention it, will you Dot, dear?"

"I would sooner die than mention it to anyone, mamma," I answered loyally; and we drove home, mamma silent and a little thoughtful.

R. NEISH.



A QUIET FLOWER-SURFACED LAKE.

WE have written upon more than one occasion of the interesting lake in the gardens of Mr. Leopold de Rothschild at Gunnersbury House, and give this week a view showing the hybrid Water-lilies in full beauty in the forenoon of a summer day. We remember this lake many years ago, when the common white *Nymphaea* of English streams and back-waters was the only flower basking upon the water's surface. All is different now, for Mr. Leopold de Rothschild is a keen gardener, and has planted at Gunnersbury a collection of the rarest hybrids and species obtainable. A fair sight it is to see on a hot sunny day such a collection as this in flower, gorgeous splashes of colour here and there, from the brilliant reds and blood crimsons, whilst rose, snow-white, rich yellow, and delicate sulphur tints add to the beauty of the picture. The whole lake is a shimmering cloud of varied colour, more beautiful than anything that can be produced with bedding plants in the flower garden. We wrote about the *Nymphaeas* recently, so that further details are unnecessary. The time to plant is April, but preparations must be made now. A quiet sheltered lake or pond, such as represented in our illustration, is a happy spot for these lovely water flowers, whether hybrids or species from the streams and rivers of other lands. Large expanses of water are not necessary for their growth. The lake at Gunnersbury is not big, which is well, perhaps, as in smaller waters the plants are more under control.

THE WINTER ACONITE.

A pretty winter flower opening out to the weak sunshine as it filters through the trees is the little *Eranthis hyemalis*, which is happy in the grass, even if shaded by overhanging branches. In many spots the Winter Aconite may be planted, such as by woodland walks, amongst dwarf shrubs, or at the base of trees, whilst when planted with the snowdrops upon grassy banks, or in the lower parts of the rock garden, a fair picture is gained, yellow flowers in a quaint collar of green leaves and the snowy whiteness of the snowdrop. It is useless to dot the bulbs about. They must be planted thickly to surface the ground with colour, and in moderately deep soil. There are so many places to plant Winter Aconites in that few positions are unsuitable. A pleasing picture is got by planting the bulbs freely among the Siberian Dogwood. Every year in the Royal Gardens, Kew, a fair sight is seen near the entrance from Kew Green. A bed of the deep red-stemmed Dogwood has been planted upon the grass and Winter Aconites cover the ground. The effect is delightful, rich yellow against deep-glowing red. Then the bulbs may be used in the front of shrub groups, by the margin of beds filled with American plants, and in similar ways.

SWEET VIOLETS IN WINTER.

The room in which the writer is penning these notes is fragrant with bunches of Violets gathered from beds in the open garden; this, too, on a mid-December day. Flower-gardeners are awakening to the fact that Violets are worth caring for, and the new varieties raised of recent years have given zest to their culture. When the weather is mild the plants will frequently bloom throughout the winter in a warm sheltered border out of doors, but good culture must be given. It is very easy to grow Violets well, and generally it is necessary to improvise a cold frame which protects from frost and heavy rains. For winter flowering, the plants must undergo careful preparation, and be in in April by planting them in beds of a size proportionate to the stock, but they should be put not less than 1ft. apart. Ordinary soil, if fairly rich and well drained, will suffice; but water must be given freely in dry weather, a light mulching of thoroughly well-decayed manure also being of much assistance. Keep the bed free from weeds, and cut off all runners, as the object is to concentrate strength in the plant itself. The little tufts put in late in April or early May will be, by the end of September, if reasonable attention has been given, healthy masses, ready to burst into fragrant bloom. At this time transfer them carefully to a cold frame in which the soil is loam and leaf-mould, and plant so that the crowns are quite close to the glass. Water them thoroughly at once, and during mild weather take off the lights to prevent the leaves damping off.



J. Gregory.

A SUMMER SCENE AT GUNNERSBURY.

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WINTER TREATMENT OF VIOLETS.

It is essential to guard carefully against damping off, an evil seldom overcome, but brought on either by injudicious watering or too little air. Unless the weather is very severe leave air always on, and remove the lights altogether during the day when a warm wind and sun prevail. Very little water will be necessary, and must then be given only on a dry morning. Anything like excess means ruin. Nor is it advisable to apply liquid stimulants, which seem to permeate the flowers. Violets smelling of manure are not interesting. A gentle syringing may be given during spells of mild weather in the middle of the day, as a little overhead moisture develops the flowers more freely. These notes apply chiefly to the double varieties, as the single kinds will frequently flower through the winter out-of-doors. They are more robust and free in every way. On no account use fire-heat in growing Violets. Red spider is sometimes troublesome in the summer, but an occasional dressing of soot is distasteful to this pest.

SINGLE AND DOUBLE VIOLETS.

Although several charming kinds have been raised of late years, it is not advisable to grow a large collection unless mere variety is desired. Of the single varieties, Princess of Wales is generally considered the most beautiful; it has large deep blue flowers on long stems, which make this a very useful kind for cutting. The Czar is also a richly scented and coloured Violet, but of California the writer has received conflicting accounts. His experience is that this kind, though large, pretty in colour, and fragrant, is over-praised; Princess of Wales is freer and more certain. Of double varieties, none excels Marie Louise; its large lavender-tinted flowers seem filled with sweet perfume, and of white varieties

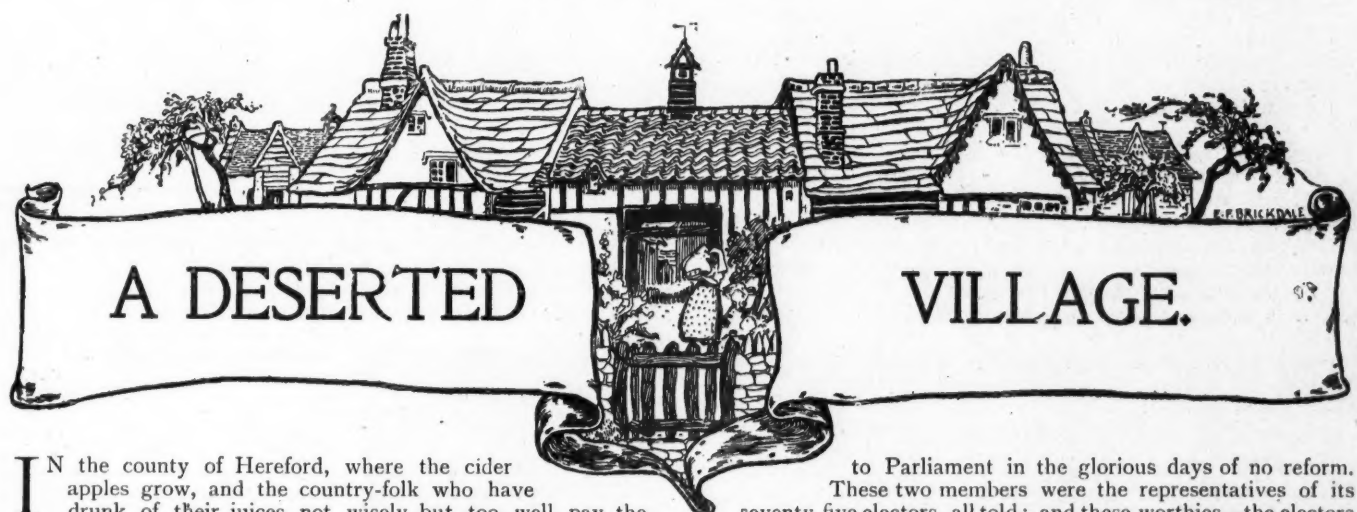
choose Comte de Brazza. In many gardens Marie Louise is the only Violet grown for winter flowering, and it is a wise choice.

COLOUR IN WINTER.

Winter is the dead season, when the garden is as uninteresting as a gravel path, at least some writers affirm, but true gardeners know differently. During the winter months many plants are in prettiest dress. At this time the dwarf Saxifragas are as green as the grass of the field, dense carpets of beautiful verdure; the Stonecrops are full of colour too, and the Heucheras change to rich tints, their leaves as bright as any flower. We must remember, also, the Megaseas, or large-leaved Saxifragas, which are worth grouping freely in all gardens, not merely for their broad leathery leaves, but for their rich and beautiful colouring. Already the yellow-flowered *Jasminum nudiflorum* is wreathed with blossom, and the Winter Sweet (*Chimonanthus fragrans*) perfumes the winter air. *Garrya elliptica* is crowded with elegant catkins, and the yellow stems of Knot-weed and the golden and crimson colouring from the Willows add to the beauty of the garden. In some sheltered nook the Christmas Rose is in full bloom, and the spicy winter Coltsfoot sends up its grey flower-spikes. All this quiet colouring is in the garden. We write nothing concerning the greys and browns of tree and shrub.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We are always pleased to assist readers in matters concerning the garden.

PHOTOGRAPHS and notes are welcome from our readers for the "Correspondence" columns.



IN the county of Hereford, where the cider apples grow, and the country-folk who have drunk of their juices not wisely but too well pay the penalties of bent backs in a rheumatic old age, lies a village little known to modern enterprise that once was a borough of no small importance. Weobley, or Weobly—the very uncertainty of orthography seeming to add an element of pathetic feebleness to its degeneration—is a place, insignificant as it now seems, that has a history, and that once had power. Historical events of some importance were enacted in and about it at different times, and it had the honour of returning no less than two members

to Parliament in the glorious days of no reform. These two members were the representatives of its seventy-five electors, all told; and these worthies—the electors—lived at their ease, rent free, for this was their guerdon for voting as their patrons' consciences told them to vote. A vote was a thing worth having in those fine old times.

Then came the Reform Act of 1832, and the fine old times—the free-living electors of Weobley, or Weobly—vanished like a dissolving magic-lantern scene, with many other good things. But Weobly has a place in history, notwithstanding that it has lost its power. It is even as old as Domesday Book, and older,

for you may there find mention of it under the name of Wibelai—the origin of the name uncertain, and its orthography (one is bound to commit the atrocity once, so let us have it out and have done with it) even then "wobbly." This town of departed glory but ancient fame lies some eleven or twelve miles by road north-west from Hereford. It is not, therefore, so very much out of the line of modern traffic, and it had at one time a claim to some industrial fame as a great place for the manufacture of gloves. That, too, it seems to have lost, whether in consequence of that pernicious Reform Act, or through whatever base agency. But there is one feature of which not any number of successive Reform Acts, or even the process of natural decay, has yet robbed it, and that is the old-world beauty of its timbered houses. It has also some remains of an ancient castle, but that is a much older story. The timbered houses are stoutly standing, and are inhabited still, for it is only by comparison with its greatness and importance in olden times



C. Bent.

THE MAIN STREET.

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that this is fairly to be called, *absit invidia verbis*, a "deserted village." Our illustrations, however, do not show much signs of life or business in the street, and such life, in the shape of two small boys, as is in evidence seems to be hiding itself away as much as possible from the rude eye of the camera. But the whole aspect of the place and its quiet is well shown—the picturesque old houses on both sides of THE MAIN STREET, and the fine church tower and steeple of St. Peter and St. Paul in the distance. The church is in various styles of architecture, and its delicate spire rising out of a very massive tower is a prominent feature of the landscape for many miles.

The TIMBERED HOUSE shown in the second of the illustrations is near the church. Part of the roof has, very obviously, been newly repaired; but the main house has all the characteristics of its class. The little porch is charming, and there is a special beauty about the arched window under the joists that support the gable. The most ancient of all the timbered houses still standing in the village is, perhaps, the Ley farmhouse, formerly the residence of the Bridges family, which bears the date 1589. This does not carry us very far back down the ages, it is true, but the ruins, which perhaps may be more



C. Bent.

TIMBERED HOUSE.

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correctly called traces, of the castle must be of very much greater antiquity, for it is expressly told us that it is one of the castles captured by King Stephen in his wars with the Empress Matilda. At a later period in history the tide of battle again touched the little town—little in comparison with towns of modern days, but not little, one

may suppose, in its own eyes then, for Charles I. visited it on several occasions about the date of the battle of Worcester, and was entertained at the sign of the Unicorn. The peacefulness of the little place to-day is in singular contrast with these warlike echoes from the Middle Ages.

The third view of this village of an historic past, but uneventful present, is taken to show THE ROAD TO HEREFORD, and again gives a good idea of the general impression of these timbered houses with their heavy gables. It is a road that the cyclist may traverse, for it is a country of good road surfaces, though of steep gradients; but everywhere it is beautiful, and it will well repay the toil of a little hill-climbing. Otherwise the ordinary tourist is more apt to pass by and leave the picturesque little place to dream of its departed glories, for its name is not written in "Bradshaw," and one sees no present reason for deeming it ever likely to be found there.



C. Bent.

THE ROAD TO HEREFORD.

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THE FOSTER-CHILDREN.

THE artist who made these pictures describes the prettiest group of them all as "Scotch collie suckling young foxes," but it happens that I know the story, so the little error of description matters not at all. Old Molly, the bob-tailed bitch who is showing to those downy balls of ruddy fur all the tender care which she would have bestowed on her own puppies if they had not been taken away from her, is no more Scotch or Scottish than was Fang, the dog of Gurth the swineherd; she is as purely English as John Bull himself. In fact, she is an Old English sheepdog, an ordinary bob-tail, a fairly typical specimen of a race faithful and sagacious in service, and shaggy and rugged to look upon. Molly learned her life's work among the broad-backed, slow-moving sheep of Southern

England, and the sweet, slow speech of Berkshire was the first human language which she grew to understand. But it fell upon a day that she accompanied her master to a great fair at Abingdon, and there, without leave asked of her, the person principally concerned, she became the unwilling slave of a man such as she had not met before. Short alike in stature and temper, black-eyed and black-haired, quick in anger and quick in forgiveness also, rapid in utterance even unto feverishness, Evan Jones the Welshman was the very opposite in every respect of the solid master with whom she had folded the sheep on the plains and downs of Berkshire. But with Evan Jones she was compelled to take service, and, after the manner of her kind, she soon accommodated herself to the change. Long

before the Great Western Railway had carried him and her to Dolgelly she had learned to understand that her new master was kind, that he knew and trusted canine character with a fulness which belongs to those only who have learned to rely upon their dogs in the wild recesses of the mountain country.

There was no need of a cord to lead Molly to the lonely farm among the hills which was Evan's home. She was his friend and servant already, and she began to understand the soft Welsh tongue very soon. Ancient as the hills themselves, unchanging from generation to generation, its primitive music appealed to her animal soul. But the surroundings in which she found herself were strange. Unlimited in extent, exceeding rugged in outline, were the tracts of mountain land whereon the pigmy sheep roamed apparently at will. When first she saw a mountain sheep run and leap and scramble over a 6ft. wall of dry, weather-beaten stones, her heart sank within her. She sighed for the stout sheep of Berks, and remembered with regretful longing the placid creatures, contented to be confined by low hurdles at which the nimble mountaineers would have laughed in scorn. But soon she found that she had more pace than she had believed, and that her superior wisdom gave her the power to execute her master's will.

Other sheepdogs there were, although at first she hardly recognised them as dogs at all. Their form gave promise of great speed and activity; their eyes were full of craft. But of the fashion that a dog should have two eyes of totally different colours she could never approve; the smooth coats of the Welsh dogs struck her as inadequate, even to the verge of indelicacy; and their markings were to her mind in outrageous taste. They were, however, not quite so parti-coloured as she had imagined would be the case when she heard Evan discuss with a friend in the train the performances of a famous sheepdog at Pentre Voelas. To hear of a "Siort of a blew dock with green smots" was startling; but Molly learned later that, although the Welshmen can see colours plainly enough, their tongue cannot describe them distinctly. It is no great discredit to Welshmen. Homer mentions the colour of Athene's eyes a hundred times; yet nobody knows to this day what colour he meant by "glaukos," and the Welsh word "glas," which is probably the same, is equally vague.



C. Reid, Wishaw, N.B.

MOLLY AND HER FOSTER-CHILDREN.

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Concerning the dogs, also, she came to change her mind. Those of her own sex were snappish at first, but she soon taught them that the white teeth in her shaggy head were not to be trifled with; and she soon saw that, if she excelled them in sober wisdom, they were possessed of unlimited cunning and craftiness. Nor was she quite indifferent to the courtly attentions of those of the other sex, who were quick to recognise a lady in any attire. Hence came it that on a certain showery day in April, Molly was the proud mother of a litter of parti-coloured puppies; and on the same day five of them vanished. They were too much for Evan's sense of the beautiful; he pronounced them "offal ugly," and he drowned them. It was the first tragedy of Molly's life; she cherished the one that was left with exceeding love.

Two or three days later there was wild excitement. Half the farmers in the district were gathered together with their dogs; there were excited cries of "Cadno," and then Molly knew there was to be a mountain fox-hunt, for Corwynt, the Whirlwind, the skewbald sire of her patchwork family which had been murdered, had told her what fun it was to hunt the foxes in spring, and had explained to her what a good thing it was to hunt them at that season, and to secure the cubs also. And Molly—although, with the memory of her bereavement still raw, she did not quite like the notion of murdering the cubs—

determined that she would slip out later and join the hunt. They shut her up in the stable with her blind puppy; they started without her, but when they had been gone twenty minutes she left her offspring to his fate, slipped out of the window, and soon tracked Evan by the foot-scent up into the mountains, where she joined the yelping pack.

Now this was a sad falling-off in an English sheepdog. Molly had known full well in the Berkshire days that foxes existed for the pleasure of smart riders in red coats; that foxhounds alone were privileged to hunt them; and often in the old times she had watched an old dog-fox lope away in leisurely fashion without so much as quickening her pace to follow him. Even then she was a hypocrite; she was longing to feel her teeth in him. She never really liked foxes, but in Berkshire she did as Berkshire did. Here in the wild mountains all was different. The gaunt foxes were fiercer and bolder than



C. Reid, Wishaw, N.B.

FIVE MOTHERLESS CUBS.

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in the lowlands. They took toll not only of the young grouse and the rabbits—Molly did the latter, too, sometimes—but also of the tiny lambs, and that was the unpardonable sin. Moreover, no massive pied foxhounds ever came to hunt them, and no riders in gay scarlet attempted to gallop over the craggy ground, for the good reason that "a neck that's once broken can never be set." Here foxes were beasts of prey to be destroyed, not the object of a noble chase. She would do in Wales as Wales did.

It was not a great hunt according to English ideas, for the farmers were on murder bent. But there was plenty of shouting and excitement when the old vixen was mobbed to death, and Molly thought it very good sport. But her blood cooled as the men moved great boulders, for she knew then that they were after the cubs, and there is something of the puppy about a cub which touches the heart of a bereaved mother. So Molly began to feel maternal, and suddenly she remembered that she was a mother, and she trotted away home. But it is one thing to get out of a stable by the window, and another thing to get in by the same way; and Molly had to wait outside, while the feeble whine within grew faint and weak, until Evan should return.

He was long a-coming. He had been away to Dolgelly, to claim the rate for the corpse of the vixen. He had taken a glass at the Lion Tap. In the gathering darkness he approached, bending under the weight of a sack over his shoulder. For Evan was a shrewd man, and he had mixed with the English, observing their ways, and he knew that when the hunting season came round in England there would be a market for stout young foxes with the wild mountain blood in them. He had heard that sometimes coverts in which the young pheasants roamed unmolested in summer produced mysterious foxes when the hounds drew them in winter, and that such foxes were gotten for gold. He had remembered Molly's trouble, and had determined to take advantage of it. Luck, too, had favoured him. When he opened the stable door, Molly bounded in, only to find the last of the parti-coloured pups cold and stiff. He carried away his sack, and left her for a while to mourn her dead. Then he returned and moved away the dead body, and after a little while he came back with the cubs. Molly, disconsolate, fretted up and down the stable. Rachel mourned for her children, and would not be comforted, for they were not. She came back to the familiar corner. There were creatures there, soft and living. She smelt them and growled low, but the growl died away.



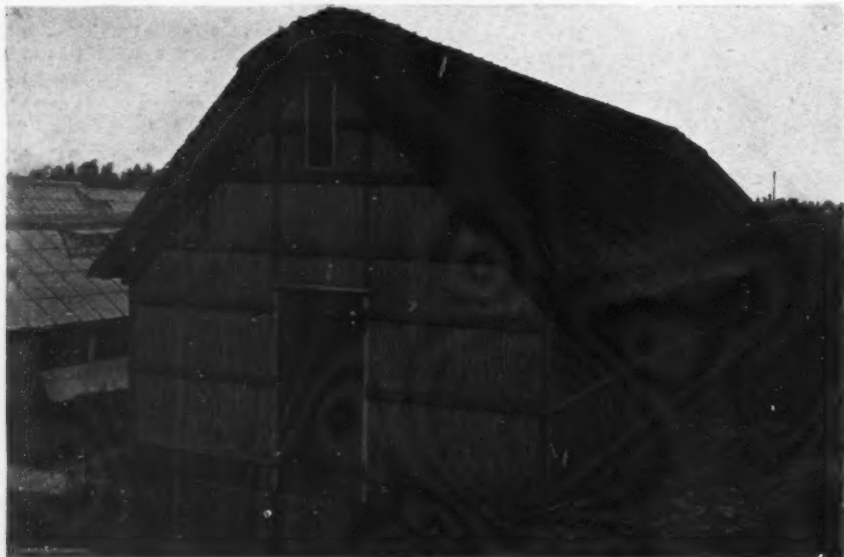
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THE CUBS THROVE AMAZINGLY.

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The smell was the smell of foxes; the softness and the helplessness was that of puppies. Should she kill or cherish? A throbbing pain, an overwhelming feeling of love and pity and motherhood, settled the question, and in a moment the cubs had found a new and faithful mother. That is how it came to pass that Molly nursed the cubs with tender solicitude, washing them often with her long tongue, using such discipline as is proper to puppies, and trying in due course to teach them the way which a good sheepdog ought to follow. It was a disappointing business, although the cubs thrived amazingly. The lessons which she could teach were not the lessons which they could learn; the one creature who could have taught them those lessons had been done to death. So Molly was not altogether sorry when the time came for her to leave her charges, and, although she rather resented it when they were chained to kennels, she could not but admit that their unruly habits and their inveterate passion for chasing poultry was a justification for Evan's treatment of them. At last, in the late autumn, these foxes, strong, but little versed in fox-lore, not knowing how to conceal their scent by running through shallow water, hardly able to find their own food in a well-stocked wood, were taken to England. For behold, there was a certain stockbroker, a shooting tenant, who rode not, and loved not foxes. Yet, when the hounds came, he did not like the big wood to be drawn blank. So the cubs that were born among the rocks of Cader Idris, and nursed by a Berkshire mother, made sport in England, and better bagmen, or with less of the stupidity of their kind, were never seen. And Molly missed them not at all; but she never joined again in the spring fox-hunt.

A MODEL FRUIT-ROOM.



THE EXTERIOR.

SUCCESSFUL fruit culture does not depend absolutely upon the kinds grown, soil, or stock, but upon the way the precious produce is treated when gathered. There are proper times for gathering, too, but we are chiefly concerned in this article with the room in which the fruits are to be stored during the winter. We have taken as our model the excellent structure Mr. Bunyard has designed for his splendid Maidstone nurseries, and our illustrations depict the interior and exterior of this room.

ITS ERECTION.

As the cost of this erection was only £80, and in it can be easily placed some 350 kinds, it will pay handsomely anyone who loses much fruit in the course of the year through bad storage to erect a similar structure.

The house at Maidstone is built in an open spot, and upon the soil. Its outside measurement is 60ft. by 16ft., but of course the size of a fruit-room must depend upon the quantity of produce to be stored. To those who may think of building such a structure as that portrayed, the following hints may be useful. Level the soil, and at each corner dig out a hole to admit a brick pier, or stones, about 1ft. square, and fix an iron dowel in the centre to receive the corner posts. As ventilation is of great importance, make provision for this by means of air bricks or an opening just above the ground-line, to be covered with perforated zinc. If the house is over 20ft. long, Mr. Bunyard recommends an extra foundation about halfway.

In constructing a house of the size represented, the main posts should be 6ft. long by 6in. square, and make

a hole in the foot to receive the iron dowel. The object of this is to secure a thoroughly sound framework. Let the main ground plate be 4½ in. by 3 in., and a top plate of the same size, supported with quartering 4½ in. by 3 in. As damp must be kept out, well tar the lower plates and all the woodwork 2 ft. from the ground.

Use ½ in. matchboard for the outside covering, and pin it on the rafters also, whilst stout boards from one side to the other, 4½ in. by 3 in., will be useful for planks on which to place baskets overhead in the roof. Attach a side board, 6 in. wide, from the ground to the roof to receive the thatch, which must be placed upright, and lateral splays of wood, 3 in. by 1 in., as shown in the photograph of the house, will keep them in position.

The fruit-room should be roofed with thatch, which gives a more even temperature; Mr. Bunyard's structure has a top covering 1 ft. 6 in. thick and 6 in. at the sides. He recommends, where it can be obtained, the reed for thatch; if not, use wheat straw or heather, and leave space for an inside and outside door. In constructing this fruit-room, everything must fit exactly to exclude draughts, which disturb the inside air. Unless this be done the fruit will not keep satisfactorily. Pay great attention also to the ventilation, which is the keynote to success. This is provided by an opening under the apex of the roof at each end, and leave a small opening between the shutters. When severe weather comes this opening can be easily stuffed with moss or hay; and protect the inside by fine perforated zinc, otherwise wasps and flies will discover the sweet stores, and inflict considerable damage, whilst as a strong defence against thieves and rats Mr. Bunyard suggests fastening ½ in. stout wire netting to the matchboard outside beneath the thatch.

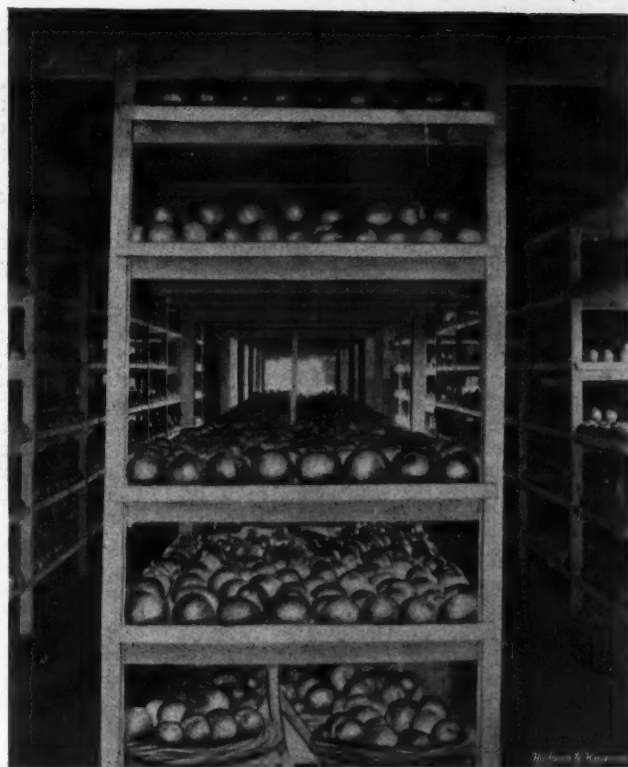
INSIDE THE HOUSE.

Our illustration of the fruit-room stored with fruit shows the way the shelves should be arranged, with sufficient space left at the bottom to accommodate market baskets filled with fruit to be placed later in layers. It is a simple matter to fix the shelves, as it is only necessary to place uprights from the ground to the roof, and then attach bearers on these to the quartering. A foot space between the shelves will suffice, as this leaves the lowest shelf 6 in. from the ground, and gives accommodation for six shelves to the eaves. Let the shelves be of matchboard, and to provide some circulation of air they should not quite meet, whilst the fruit should rest upon clean wheat straw. For the choicest fruit, Mr. Bunyard in his structure has a narrow table with a raised matchboard set on trestles. As regards windows, a fruit-room is better without them, but Mr. Bunyard has them of 21 oz. glass, to save the use of a candle at storing time. Outside shutters, however, are used to exclude light.

If the directions given are not sufficiently explicit, we shall be pleased to help anyone to erect a fruit-room on the above plan.

STORING THE FRUIT.

We must say that the finest fruit-room is unavailing if the fruit is not carefully gathered. The old-fashioned way was to shake the tree and tumble the fruit into baskets, which were taken to the store and their contents shot out in heaps. This is not good gardening. Gather the fruit, and store it when quite dry, laying the larger kinds out singly on the shelves, and inspect it constantly to



THE INTERIOR.

remove those giving signs of decay. Smaller fruits may be placed in rows three or four deep. Another point is to keep the floor damp.

By following the advice given, excellent fruit may be obtained throughout the winter months, when it is in great request, and of true flavour. Mr. Bunyard tells us that it was in the fruit-room constructed upon these lines that he stored the seventy dishes of splendid apples exhibited at the Temple Show on May 29th, 1898. Of course, fruit kept so late loses flavour somewhat, but no good garden is complete without a fruit-store constructed on the best principles.



TIGER shooting! What a fascination there is in these words, not only for those who have never known the joys and sorrows of this noblest of all sports, but even to the hardened and blasé Indian sportsman who has spent half his life in its pursuit. An Englishman, according to our French neighbours, is said to be never happy unless he is killing something, and doubtless there is some truth in this accusation; but even an Englishman finds the occupation somewhat monotonous at times, and, after "bagging" a certain number of "records" in the wilds of Africa or on the plains of India, is apt to turn his thoughts homewards, and to regret his club and the many other comforts he has left behind. But who has ever met a true sportsman who confessed to being tired of tiger shooting, or who, when engaged in it, would voluntarily relinquish the occupation for any other!

No; there is an indescribable something, a reverential fear, combined with an irresistible desire to overcome this powerful and ferocious beast, that renders the pursuit of him a source of endless joy to the pursuer, and lends to tiger shooting that mysterious fascination not found in the quest for any other big game. The following incident in connection with this most fascinating of all big game shooting will give some idea as to what may, and sometimes does, occur when engaged in it.

Some years ago it was my good fortune to be posted to a district lying at the foot of the Bhutan Hills. This district had nothing to recommend it in the matter of salubrity, indeed it was

notoriously unhealthy, nor as regards pleasant society, for there were only three Europeans at the headquarters station besides myself; but to the sportsman it was a veritable paradise, containing more jungle and more big game than any other twenty districts put together. My duties took me everywhere, for even in the most remote "jungle tracts" there were stations or outposts to be visited at least twice a year. To these places, of course, there were no regular roads, hence I was provided by Government with two elephants as transport. Fortunately for me both these animals were exceptionally staunch (one of them remarkably so), a quality extremely rare with ordinary Government elephants, many of whom will bolt on the first indication of a tiger or other large animal being seen near them in a jungle.

One very warm July morning I was working in my office, when one of the village police, accompanied by the "khubburiyah" (literally, one who gives information), came in to report that a tiger had killed a large bullock, belonging to the latter, in his village, and was at the moment they left enjoying an early meal off his victim. This was cheering news, but as a pair of leopards had been fairly busy with the cattle of this particular neighbourhood of late, and as the weather was exceptionally hot, I determined upon testing the information before taking any action, and accordingly sent at once for my sporting fidus Achates, one Birdul Thappa, an old Ghoorka native officer whom I had placed in charge of the elephants, one of the pluckiest of his tribe, and a sportsman to the tips of his dumpy fingers.

This individual on arrival questioned both the rural policeman and khubburiah most closely, but their story was so consistent, and their conviction apparently so strong as to the "kill" being that of a tiger, that we finally decided to send the elephants out at once with howdah and guns in charge of the old Ghoorka, who it was arranged was to make a local investigation, and if from the size of the pugs and other indications he was satisfied that the culprit was a tiger, he was to send me a telegram from the railway station, which, fortunately, was only a mile from the jungle. To save delay, I gave him a form duly filled up and addressed to myself with one word only—"Come!"

After despatching the elephants on what I thought would prove a wild goose chase, I worked myself up to a proper state of resignation, and so successfully, that by the evening I thought I had quite convinced myself that tiger shooting in July was a mistake, and to go out for a whole day in such weather nothing short of madness. With this comforting conviction, I dismissed from my mind all thoughts of the possible tiger, and about 10 p.m. prepared to turn in, quite pleased to think that, as it was now too late for the telegram, I could go to bed comfortably without any fear of being woke up at some unearthly hour of the night. However, "L'homme propose, etc.," for I had hardly begun to undress when the telegram arrived, and forgetting in an instant all my good resolutions and convictions, I tore it open, and found, to my inexpressible delight, that one word only—"Come!"

As the point where the elephants were to meet me was eleven miles off, I ordered a pony to be sent out halfway at two o'clock, and leaving strict injunctions to be called at five myself, turned in, feeling much happier, I must confess, than when under the influence of my good resolutions a few minutes before.

Punctually to the minute a weird-looking figure clad in white, itself only half-awake, was at the bedside apparently endeavouring to make me understand "that it has gone five o'clock, and that the 'little breakfast' was on the table." It was some minutes before I realised why he was annoying me so persistently at this early hour, but as the recollection of the last night's telegram suddenly flashed across my sleepy brain, I was out of bed in a second, and inside my shooting kit just as réveille was sounding in the Police Barracks close by, and ten minutes later was bowling along at some ten miles an hour through the comparatively cool morning air.

The sun was hardly up as I just neared the eleventh milestone, and soon I saw the two elephants looming in the distance like monster spectres in the grey morning light. The old Ghoorka, perched on top of the pad, received me with a broad grin on his old weather-beaten face, and knowing from past experience what this meant, I lost no time in asking questions, but clambered up at once into the howdah and started for the jungle, about a mile off the road. On the way the old man informed me that immediately on his arrival the previous afternoon he had visited the field where the tiger was reported to have seized the bullock, and had soon discovered the spot indicated by traces of a struggle, with patches of blood here and there, and in some soft mud close by the unmistakable pugs of a full-grown tiger; leading from this spot to a small but very dense jungle about 200 yds. off was a broad track in the short grass with the tiger's pugs occasionally showing in the mud. This track was found to lead up and into the jungle; the old man had followed it some way till he was satisfied that the "kill" had been dragged into some very thick covert, then prudently retired, quite sure that the tiger was there; however, to make assurance doubly sure, he carefully examined the jungle, but could find no pugs leading out, though on the banks of the stream running on one side of the belt of jungle he noticed that the tiger had come down to drink during the night, but had returned to the kill.

This appeared to be quite good enough, so on arrival at the jungle I posted myself at once at one end of the long strip, taking up a position which I thought would command the stream which was to my right, and sent the pad elephant round by the open to my left, with directions to enter the jungle as low down as possible, and beat up towards me in a zigzag fashion.

To understand what followed it is necessary to explain that to my right, across the stream, there was a deeply-wooded ravine running at right angles to the jungle I was beating and to the stream, and of considerable length, the mouth of this ravine being about 100 yds. to my right front.

About an hour after the pad elephant left me I could hear her in the distance crashing through the jungle, occasionally

tearing down boughs and branches. This continued for some time, but soon I heard her giving vent to her feelings in low rumblings, and that peculiar drum sound that elephants make with their trunks when they catch sight of or smell any large animal moving in the jungle before them; this was varied occasionally by shrill trumpet sounds. I knew from these signs that the tiger was not only at home, but evidently afoot, possibly close before me, as tigers generally move a long way before the beating line. I was ready for him, with my eyes glued to the edge of the jungle to my front. Suddenly, to my intense disgust, I heard a loud roar about 100 yds. to my right front, almost immediately followed by a plunge and splash, and before I had time to realise what had happened, or to bring my rifle to the shoulder, the tiger plunged across the narrow stream and disappeared into the ravine.

However, the jungle he had entered was, from my point of view, the best place he could have gone to; so, calling up the beater elephant, we followed in line, carefully beating the dense covert till we reached the end where the ravine terminated abruptly in a perpendicular wall of clay covered by shrubs, but there was no tiger to be seen. We beat the covert again and again with the same result. I then took my elephant out to see whether there was any covert on the further side of the wall, and found there was, and that it was quite large enough to hold the tiger. I beat this covert carefully, but with no better success. I then came to the conclusion that there must be some hole or cave in the front face of the wall which the beast might be concealed in, so returned to the original ravine, and, after a long and careful search, discovered an opening about 2 ft. in diameter, well hidden behind the shrubs.

I saw there was only one thing to be done now, viz., to discover first if there was a similar opening on the other side, and, if so, to take up my position near it, and make Birdul fire his carbine into the front hole. This was accordingly done without delay, but though the old man fired some half-dozen rounds, and I repeated the performance from my side with No. 6 shot, nothing came out, nor was there anything to indicate that there was any animal inside. I was now fairly puzzled, and could only conclude that we had walked over the brute in the ravine, so returned to the entrance and beat it up most carefully till not a portion was left untrampled. Still there was nothing to be seen of the tiger, though from the behaviour of the elephants I was convinced that he was somewhere near. The old Ghoorka was completely nonplussed, and declared his firm conviction that the tiger was no tiger at all, but a "bhoot" (a phantom). However, as I had never heard of tigers posing as ghosts, I determined to go back and look for him in the original covert, thinking he might have slunk back across the stream, lying

close during our first beat of the ravine till we had passed. I accordingly looked about for a place to get out, as I had had great difficulty in clambering out the first time, the walls of the ravine being on an average about 20 ft. high on both sides. However, I could find no other road out, so had to use this again, and had just reached the top when, to my horror, I saw that old Birdul had got off his elephant, and was deliberately walking up the bottom of the ravine towards the hole in the wall, anathematising the spectre tiger in the strongest language, but at the same time looking for his pugs in the soft mud which was visible here and there in bare places. I called to him to get on the elephant at once, but the words were hardly out of my mouth when there was a deafening roar, and the next moment a huge mass of black and yellow sprang from the hole right on to the poor old man. The latter kept his head, and, with marvellous coolness, fell flat on his face as he saw the beast coming, thinking he would spring past and over him.

But the tiger naturally was not in the best of tempers. He had been driven off his kill and had been considerably hustled and worried, and he meant business now; so instead of springing over, he deliberately jumped on the unfortunate man. Then followed a scene the recollection of which haunts me still. Being some 20 ft. above I could not see very clearly what was actually going on, as the huge body of the tiger completely covered the old man, but the loud angry growls of the brute and the manner in which he appeared to be biting and tearing with his teeth and claws was too horrible to witness, more especially as I was powerless to render any assistance. To fire was impossible, and it would have been madness to have attempted it, as I could not possibly have hit the tiger without hitting the man. Moreover, unless I could kill him instantaneously, I should only infuriate him more, and with the brute moving every second, it was impossible to make sure of hitting him in a vital



DRESSED IN ALL HIS BEST.

part. The temptation, however, to do so was hard to resist. The rifle was in my hand and at full cock; I brought it to my shoulder, my elephant was as steady as a rock, and I was just about to risk a shot at the tiger's head, when providentially it occurred to me that a sudden noise might cause him to release his victim; so calling upon the mahout (elephant driver) and my orderly sitting behind me to join, we yelled and shouted with all our might, and so hideously appalling must have been the noise we made that we had hardly begun when the tiger sprang off the man and into the jungle. All that I have described occupied actually about 2 min.—probably less. I have no recollection of how I dismounted or got down the bank, which was almost perpendicular, but was told afterwards that I swarmed down by the elephant's ear as he stood, and took the bank at a run.

Be this as it may, I was off the elephant and alongside the old man before he had time to realise that the tiger had left him, and to my intense relief found him not only alive, but quite conscious and collected, though one mass of blood from head to foot, his white clothing crimson. With the assistance of my orderly and some villagers who had been hanging about some distance off we carried him to the village, and placing him under the shade of a tree, I washed his wounds with whisky and water, and bound them up as well as I could. He had twenty-seven wounds in all, some of them from teeth and others from claws. Most of them were on the right arm, which the tiger had apparently gripped hard, possibly with the intention of carrying him off. There was one very serious claw wound on the right eyebrow, just missing the eye itself. The old man, though in great pain, kept his senses, and begged hard that I would leave him and kill the tiger, for, according to his superstition, if the tiger lived, he must die.

The terrible scene I had just witnessed had, as may be imagined, driven all thoughts of any further sport for that day out of my mind, but as the injured man begged so hard that the tiger should be killed, and as it was absolutely necessary for his recovery that he should have nothing on his mind to worry him and probably bring on fever, I made him as comfortable as I could with the cushions out of the trap, and telling him to cheer up, as I would soon be back with the tiger dead, I took the two elephants, and beating down the ravine in case he should be lying up there, I made for the original covert.

The ravine, however, proved a blank, but no sooner had I posted myself in the position I had at first occupied and put the beater elephant in than out came the tiger, charging straight at my elephant. I fired both barrels, which turned him, and he made off limping to my left, and took up his position in a very dense bit of covert about 400 yds. off. I followed him up at once, and posted myself in front of this covert, putting the beater in at the far end; but she had hardly entered when the tiger charged and drove her out. This was repeated several times, so, fearing that he might injure the elephant or the people on her, I called out to the orderly not to go in again, as I was coming round myself, which I did, and leaving the beater outside to watch an outlet, I went in, and had just reached a small patch of comparatively open ground when the tiger, crashing through the covert at the far end, came charging down. I fired as he was about 100 yds. off, and fortunately made a splendid shot through the front of the left shoulder.

The tremendous pace he was going caused him to turn a complete somersault, and there he lay, as I thought, stone dead at the elephant's feet, and I had actually seated the elephant and was just getting off to measure him, when he got up and crawled back into covert, getting a shot through the spine as he did so, which practically settled him, though it required another shot through the head to finish him completely.

He proved to be a full-grown and very massive young tiger, but having an unusually short tail; he only measured 8 ft. 6 in.

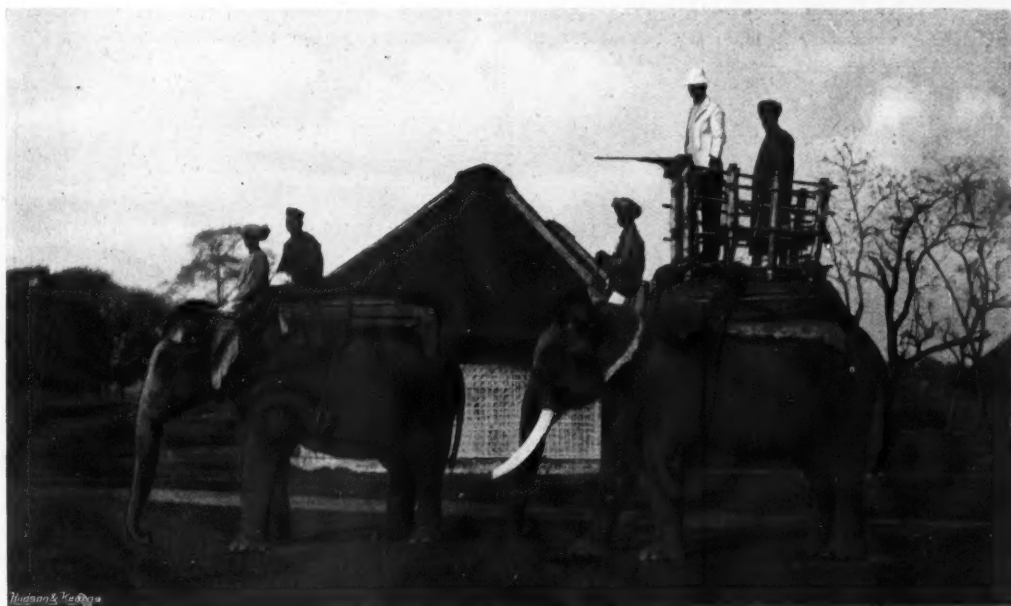
My delight at having secured him, and with such comparative ease, can be better imagined than described, and I lost no time in getting him on to the pad, as I knew that old Birdul

must have heard the firing, and would be anxious to know the result. Never shall I forget his look of delight as he saw us approaching, with the head and tail of the tiger falling well over each side of the pad; and I believe this sight did more towards curing him than all the careful treatment he subsequently received.

As we got near he called out to me, "It's all right now, sahib" (sir)—"you have killed the tiger and saved my life." But it was now high time to get him off to the hospital, so putting him up in the dog-cart, I made the ponies go as they had never gone before, and did the eleven miles just within the hour. At the hospital I insisted upon the assistant there making a thorough search, to ensure none of the bites or scratches being overlooked, and had each one well burnt with nitrate of silver in my presence, and so effectually, that the old man fairly writhed with the pain, and declared that the tiger had not hurt him half so much.

However, the result was that in three weeks' time he was discharged, perfectly cured, and with hardly a mark on him. At one time there were slight symptoms of blood-poisoning, but these yielded to careful treatment, and some six weeks later the plucky old Ghoorka was out tiger shooting with me as usual, though I gave him clearly to understand that there was to be no more getting off the elephant, and that the first time he disobeyed these orders he would be put on frontier guard duty. He certainly never did get off the elephant again without permission, but I verily believe this was more from fear of being deprived of the pleasure of accompanying me on my shooting excursions than from any sense of danger to himself.

I have headed this paper "A Miraculous Escape," and I think not without due reason, for considering that the accident occurred in July, the hottest month of the year, and that the tiger only an hour or two before he attacked the man had been feeding on the carcase, which must necessarily have been in a highly-decomposed condition, it is simply marvellous how blood-poisoning in a severe and fatal form did not set in, to say nothing of the wonderful escape from being killed outright at the first



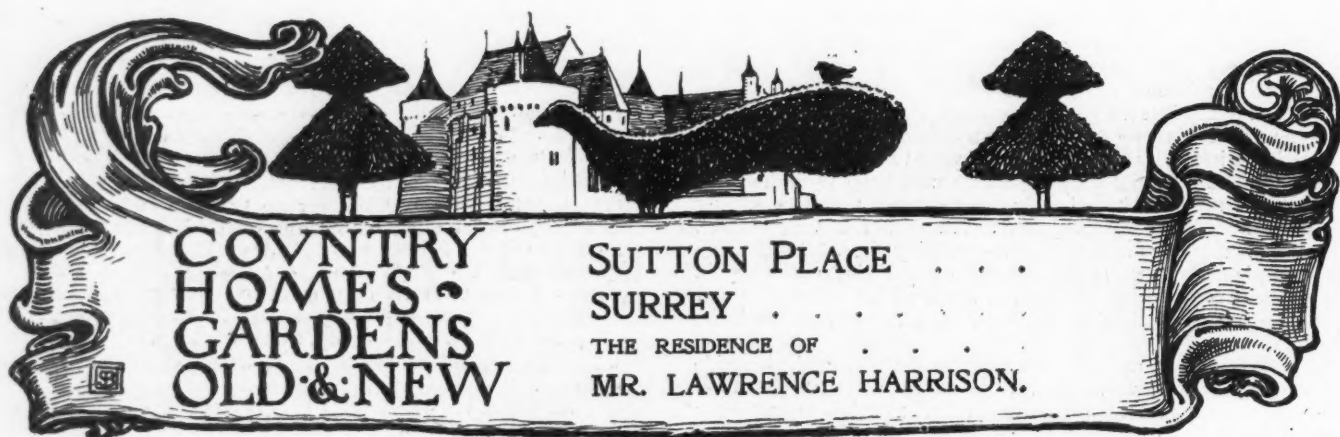
THE PARTY READY TO START.

onset. There are not, I am sure, many authenticated cases of escapes of this kind recorded in the annals of tiger shooting in India. I hope, therefore, that the one I have attempted to describe may interest my readers. That it contains many imperfections from a literary point of view I am aware, for mine is but "a plain unvarnished tale," taken from notes made at the time; and as the incident struck me as being sufficiently tragic in itself, I have carefully avoided destroying its veracity by the addition of any sensational passages or exaggeration; in fact, I have endeavoured to reproduce as accurately as possible what actually occurred, and on these grounds I hope to be excused any solecisms I may, unwittingly, have committed.

The larger photograph is of the *dramatis personæ*; the figure seated on the pad being that of the intrepid old Ghoorka, clad in his great-coat, for even in the hottest months of the year it is very necessary in this malaria-laden climate to be warmly clothed during the early morning hours, if one would avoid fever.

The smaller photograph represents the khubburiah "dressed in all his best," in honour of his visit to the sahib.

C. E. GOULDSBURY.



HALF encircled by the placid Wey, winding onward from Guildford towards Woking and Ripley, in Surrey, stands the beautiful and interesting place depicted in these pages. That many charming houses and winsome gardens in that favoured region of Surrey have been described in *COUNTRY LIFE* is known to our readers, who will be glad to make acquaintance with yet another so distinctly interesting as Sutton Place.

The aspect of it carries us back at once to Tudor times. We are in the days when barbican and frowning battlement had fallen before the more peaceful influence of a later time, but when, in the mind of the country gentleman, something still was needful to keep the intruder parleying at the gate. It was comfortable to him even yet to look within upon an enclosed courtyard—legitimate descendant of the castle-garth—and to have a moat or a ditch, or at least a strong gateway, without. Such houses as Compton Wynyates and Baddesley Clinton, in Warwickshire, and as Oxburgh Hall, in East Anglia, to cite no more, may be in the reader's mind when he looks at the pictures of the courtyard and garden front of Sutton

Place. There is here a character, too, in common with the old houses of the Eastern Counties, and of other places where stone was not easy in the getting, that the house is built of brick. Now venerable, weathered stone, with moss clinging to it, is very beautiful, but old red brick, mellowed in tone, contrasting so well with the green things that clothe or neighbour it, has a charm all its own; and the house we describe derives a further loveliness from the fact that all its enrichments, and very many they are, are in material of lighter colour, a kind of terra-cotta, described by Aubrey as "Flanders brick," and said traditionally to have come from the Low Countries. The reader, having our pictures before him, will conceive the charm of this building both of hue and architecture.

Something must now be said of the men who built and dwelt in Sutton Place. The little village of Weston-under-Lizard, in Staffordshire, gave name to a family of Westons, who became people of note and important men in the State, and rose high in kingly favour. To one of them, Sir Richard Weston, Henry VIII. granted the Surrey estate, which had belonged beforetime to the Beauforts, about the year 1520. There was an older house





GARDENS OLD AND NEW.—SUTTON PLACE: THE OLD BOWLING GREEN.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

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in the park, standing a little to the north of the present structure, but it was not to the mind of the new possessor, who set about building a quadrangular structure quite in the taste of his time, of which a very large part still remains, as we may see. Sir Richard Weston was the King's under-treasurer, while his brother, Sir William Weston, was the last prior of St. John of Jerusalem. The country people have curiously spoken of Sir Richard as having been the King's brewer, and would point to the vine leaves and grapes which surround his rebus in certain parts of the structure as branches of hops, indicative of his office.

The under-treasurer apparently did not destroy the older house without selecting from it the painted glass, with the *rose en soleil* of Edward IV., the crown in the hawthorn bush of Henry VII., and other badges, to insert in his new windows, where still some of them remain. His house was elaborate in its details, and the work in moulded brick is amongst the best in the country. The mullions and transoms are beautifully worked and well preserved, and the arched and cusped heads to the lights are most picturesque. The feature of a noble bay in the courtyard, which the Tudor architect always seized upon for the exercise of his skill, is here very charming indeed, and the enrichment of lozenges, elaborately moulded, over each range of windows, is unusual. The same is found in other parts of the structure, and as an ornamentation for the panelled embattlements, in combination with deeply moulded quatrefoils.

There are also in many parts of the building grotesque figures in panels, and the hood-mouldings to doors and windows, and the chimneys are excellent. Greater effect is given to some of these features by the dark lines of brick by which they are enframed. The rebus of the builder, "R. W.," with a tun adorned with vine leaves and grapes, occurs both in terra-cotta and glass. In short, the features of Sir Richard Weston's Tudor mansion are exceedingly good and interesting, and the grouping and effect of the whole structure is most charming. In places it is vested with ivy, which enhances its beauty without hiding its remarkable architectural details. A particular device in glass, though it seems to be later than the builder's time, may be noticed here, because it illustrates one of the wise saws and instances of an early time. It depicts a rustic crossing a brook, with the necks of five goslings thrust through his belt. The scene is in Wither's "Emblems" (1635), where a lout goes forth to bring home the goslings, fears lest they should be drowned in crossing the water, and strangles them by pulling their necks under his girdle. Wither applies the lesson:

"The best good turns that fools can do us
Prove disadvantages unto us."

Dire disaster overtook a son of the builder of Sutton Place, Francis Weston, who, with Brereton, was a gentleman of the

Privy Chamber to the monstrous, cruel King. How much or how little is true of the gross charges made against Anne Boleyn will never be known, but it is certain that Henry was tired of her, and that with her died her brother, Lord Rochford, Sir



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THE HALL.

"C.L."

Henry Norris; Smeaton, the King's musician; Brereton and Weston, all involved in her fate. Weston had stood high in royal favour, and had often played shovel-board, dice, and other games with both King and Queen. In the terrible time of the accusation Anne doubted him more than the rest, fearing he would incriminate her; and upon the scaffold on Tower Hill he publicly lamented his foolish resolve to give up his youth to pleasure and his age to repentance.

Nevertheless, Anne Boleyn's daughter did not regard the Westons with disfavour. She visited Sutton Place in 1591, in the course of her stately progress towards Chichester, and was entertained in the long gallery we depict. The gallery was a usual feature at the time in great houses—the long gallery at Haddon is perhaps as famous as any—and was a large apartment wherein lords and ladies trode those stately measures together. Elizabeth had scarcely left Sutton Place, when the long gallery took fire, and a great deal of woodwork was consumed. The high-piled logs had shed their cheery blaze, but the zeal of the servant-men at the coming of so august a visitor, or their carelessness in the excitement of the hour, laid open the mansion to disaster, and the gallery long remained in ruin. Early in the last century, however, much was done in restoring and refitting the house, particularly on the south and east sides, where the gallery and ancient chapel are.

The Westons died out in the direct line in 1782, but a gentleman of Herefordshire, John Webbe, Esq., who was connected with them distantly, assumed the name. They had done much for the development



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THE LONG GALLERY

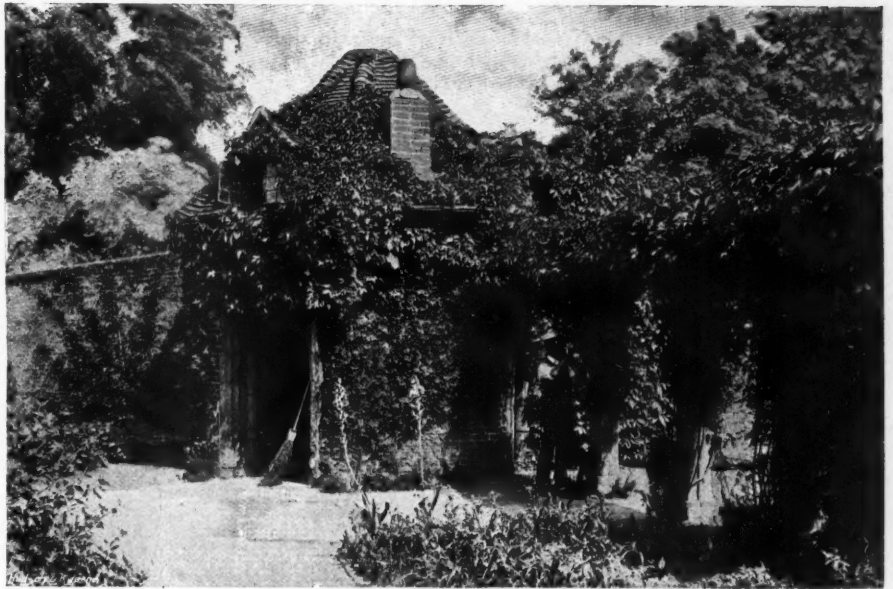
"COUNTRY LIFE."

and agriculture of the neighbourhood. A later Sir Richard Weston, in the middle of the seventeenth century, was instrumental in rendering the Wey navigable up to Guildford. From the Low Countries he introduced the devices of locks, "tumbling bays," and flood-gates, and it was he, too, according to Aubrey, who brought "the first clover grass" into Surrey from the same countries. The county is greatly indebted to him for its agricultural development, and it deserves to be remembered that, as early as 1650, or thereabout, he published "Directions for the Improvement of Barren and Heathy Lands," which he dedicated to his sons. Upon the death of John Webbe Weston, Esq., the estate passed, by the marriage of his daughter, to W. T. Salvin, Esq., in whose family the ownership still remains. Captain F. H. Salvin is a well-known authority upon the use and training of the hawk.

At the end of the last century partial ruin had fallen upon Sutton Place, particularly on the gateway side of the quadrangle, which was altogether removed. The gateway had been an imposing part of the building, with a lofty hexagonal turret at each angle. Happily the house is now in the hands of those who reverence and love it. It is as beautiful as the pictures show it, charming in itself, its internal adornments, its excellent panelling, interesting pictures, fine tapestry and furniture, and delightful in its surroundings of garden and wood, upon that gentle elevation within the long sweep of the river Wey.

COUNTRY LIFE has depicted several homes rescued from decay—some even from oblivion. In days of rural depression such places should be the joy of Englishmen. They are centres of light and leading in the Shires, and offer comfortable contrast to other old-time mansions where rusted hinge and broken pane, dry moat and tangled garden, broken terrace and pillar crumbling to decay, are the sign and token of unwelcome change.

What manner of garden neighboured Sutton Place in the



"COUNTRY LIFE."

AN OLD SUMMER-HOUSE.

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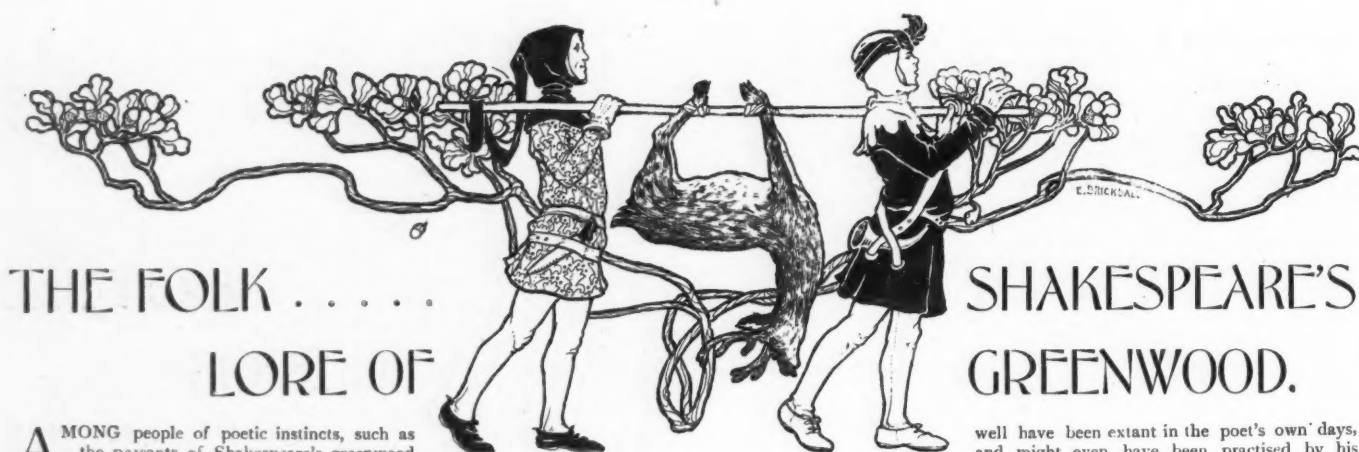
old days we may surmise. That which is there now is appropriate to the historic house. The tool or garden houses are pictures in themselves. Here, again, fine old brick-work, and the utmost quaintness imaginable, delight the eye in search of the picturesque. Upon these mellow walls of the garden beautiful creepers love to cling. See how the radiant border, too, and a fine hedge, margin the long strip of sward where the bowling-green seems to have been. Excellent lawns, gay flower-beds, and noble trees are the characteristic features of the place. There is unity in the great variety, and the visitor leaves Sutton Place well pleased indeed to find the venerable, characteristic, and historic mansion restored to its pristine charm, and surrounded by gardens and pleasure grounds exactly appropriate to the scene.



Copyright

THE COURTYARD.

"COUNTRY LIFE,"



AMONG people of poetic instincts, such as the peasants of Shakespeare's greenwood who were born and have lived all their lives in the haunts of Nature, and far from the hum and bustle of crowded towns and cities, the belief in occurrences, moods, and signs, which the ordinary townsman would pass over without notice or comment, is so strong as to be a trait of character as peculiar to them as their manners, customs, and language.

The outdoor examples of folk-lore, as might be expected in a people who spend the greater half of their lives in the open air, are numerous, picturesque, and poetical; but the indoor practices and beliefs (of which this brief sketch is to give some account) are no less prevalent, and by their quaintness, allied with the obscurity of their origin, are sometimes more interesting than the outdoor examples, and certainly, in some cases, more poetical.

In many parts of leafy Warwickshire, cheeses are made with almost as much success as butter, "The Hall Farm" of George Eliot at Corley, near Nuneaton, being now used as a butter and cheese making dairy. Cheese-making is an important home industry among the more prosperous of the farm-folk, and particular attention is paid to it. Neat-handed Phyllis, however, must have one qualification more strongly marked than any other, or else the cheeses will not prove satisfactory to the maker or the partaker—she must not sneeze. There is much humour in the greenwood rhyme which proscribes any woman who sneezes or takes snuff from having a hand in the cheese-making. It is as follows:

"A woman who sneezes
Ought not to make cheeses;
Or ever take snuff—
Put *her* hands in a muff."

The injunction is well-intended and wise with regard to the taking of snuff, inasmuch as the woman who does take snuff must invariably be the woman who sneezes; and neither the snuff nor the attendant sneeze are desirable qualifications in the maker of cheeses.

The sneeze, however, has a certain lore attached to it among the peasants of Shakespeare's greenwood, which, for them, is full of significance. Every day upon which the sneeze occurs the occasion is noted, and those who hear it proclaim its import. In like manner the number of sneezes is taken into account, and their import proclaimed with a serious or cheerful face, as the case may be, according to the number of sneezes, which denote various things, such as being or going to be pleased, crossed, angry, kissed, in safety or in danger, going to receive a letter, and other similar occurrences, finally winding up with a proposal of marriage.

In respect to the date of the sneeze or sneezes, the Warwickshire jingle is very precise, and is implicitly believed in by every native born in the greenwood:

"Sneeze on Monday, sneeze for danger;
Sneeze on Tuesday, kiss a stranger;
Sneeze on Wednesday, have a letter;
Sneeze on Thursday, something better;
Sneeze on Friday, sneeze for sorrow;
Sneeze on Saturday, see true love to-morrow."

Nothing is mentioned in the rhyme of the effect of a sneeze on Sunday, but the belief is that a sneeze on that day means a visit from the parson on Monday. "There now—Passon Wordington will be comin' to see us to-morrow," is the exclamation most likely to follow a Sunday sneeze in the cottage of a Warwickshire rustic, where "signs" are looked for with tireless vigilance.

The forecasts of approaching visitors are, indeed, very numerous, and generally believed in. Their signs appear in the morning tea-cup and in the nightly candle that takes the woodlander to bed; and the curious point of interest is that the signs are not merely noticed when they come into view, but are eagerly, even anxiously, looked for, especially by the maidens, who invariably have their minds overlaid with a veil of romantic nonsense.

It is the first dreg that appears upon the surface of the tea that foretells the advent of the stranger. This is carefully rescued by the aid of a spoon, and pinched between the fingers to ascertain its sex. If soft it is a sign that the visitor will be a lady, if hard it is perfectly sure to be a gentleman.

The red-hot speck in the flame of the candle denotes the coming of a stranger on the morrow, but gives no clue to the sex. It is nevertheless believed in by the dwellers of this romantic greenwood, even more implicitly than the sign in the tea-cup, and upon seeing it the good housewife never neglects to set her home in order and prepare for the stranger's coming.

That spark in the candle is a great delight to the Warwickshire lass in love. To her it means a letter—from her true lover, of course. In the words of the rhyme:

"A spark in the wick
Brings a love-letter quick."

As soon as the damsel sees it she will run across to the candle-stick to find out whether the letter is posted. This is done by lifting the candle-stick gently into the air, and bringing it down upon the table with a smart little bang. If the star falls, as it invariably does from the effect of the concussion, the letter is already posted, and the rustic beauty goes to rest with the firm conviction that she will receive a *billet-doux* from her lover in the morning. There is quite a poetical and Shakespearian flavour about this example of folk-lore, which might

well have been extant in the poet's own days, and might even have been practised by his Shottery lass.

There is another similar and much-used form of foreknowing the arrival of a visitor in vogue among the peasants of Shakespeare's greenwood, and that is the appearance of the thin black leaf or film which is sometimes seen flickering upon the bars of the grate. This, with them, is a sure sign of the impending visit of someone—stranger or friend. "There be a stranger on the grate," is a remark which will act as a signal for a general rush to the grate to discover whether the stranger is coming on foot or in a carriage, to-day or to-morrow.

The performance is accomplished by bending down and clapping the hands in front of the stranger. If the filmy leaf leaps back into the fire, the visitor is coming on wheels (that is, in a carriage), in fact has already started. If it falls out on to the hearthstone, the stranger is coming thither on foot. This is the belief and affirmation of the country dwellers in this leafy neighbourhood, and the stranger on the grate is watched for by them with more than a common interest.

In a county so pastoral as rural Warwickshire it is a matter for no surprise that simple beliefs in connection with the farmstock are very prevalent with the natives. The origin of these beliefs is shrouded in obscurity, but the formalities are still held sacred, and though in some cases they may be held with an eye to material advantage, that does not in the least diminish their interest. Among the farmers' wives, who are mostly more frugal and careful than the farmers themselves, the belief that if the milk is burnt in the boiling the cows will run dry is held in such good faith that the pot is invariably watched, notwithstanding the ancient housewife's dictum that

"The watched pot never boils."

The Warwickshire poultry-maid, too, will take good care of the egg-shells. It is not accounted good luck to keep the shells in the house, and they are taken away as soon as may be convenient; but if by any mischance some person unacquainted with the folk-lore of the subject should burn the egg-shells, then, in the rustic belief, the hens will cease laying. Where this faith is the strongest is in the isolated homesteads on the waste or by the side of a wood, and there the utmost care is used to prevent any single egg-shell being thrown into the fire, so that the fecundity of the hens may not be stayed.

In connection with the folk-lore of farmstock it is nothing short of remarkable to notice how keen and minute is the observation of the native grown rustic, and how rich in beliefs—for him—are the many signs that he sees on looking around. Nothing escapes his attention. The smallest and most trifling incidents in the eyes of the townsman are to the peasant of Shakespeare's greenwood signs sometimes fraught with a singular significance.

For example, when the turkeys make that weird noise in their throats known as "gobbling," the farmer or poultry-hand observes the sign at once, and takes measures accordingly. The gobble of the turkey is, in their simple faith, a sign of change in the atmospheric conditions, a change for the worse; the coming, in short, of foul weather.

If there happens to be a stranger or visitor in the farmstead, the gobble of the turkeys will keep him there a spell longer than it was his intention to stay, owing to the representations of the farmer that a storm is coming on. There is an allusion to this belief in the old Warwickshire rhyme so often quoted by the ancient ones of the village, and which runs as follows:

"When the wind is in the east, and turkeys gobble,
It is no time a horse to hobble;
But let him range to catch the breeze,
Should he be troubled with the heaves."

The troubles of the flesh in both man and beast have their remedies in the folk-lore of the county. Indeed, there is perhaps no stronger, keener, or more permanent belief in the mind of the Warwickshire rustic than that of the virtue of tree and herb as cures for the ills of animate Nature. This is an ancient faith, prevalent in Shakespeare's days, and well known to the poet himself, who finely describes the weedy and tattered man (or woman) wandering in the meadows or by the Avon's classic side,

"Culling of simples,"

and among the peasants of to-day, who are, for the most part, as stationary as the trees in their own greenwood, the belief in Nature's own medicine for Nature's ailments is as firmly held as it was in the days of Shakespeare, in spite of the ever-growing army, even in country places, of professors of medicine, who use less picturesque arts than those of the rustics, born and bred up amid the stores of Nature's remedies.

One curious practice still largely in vogue in out-of-the-way districts of leafy Warwickshire, is that known as "the tree cure," in the efficacy of which the natives hold an unshakable faith. Any weak child (but more especially those suffering from the rickets) is a proper subject for the tree cure. The child is brought to the foot of a twin-ash, or, better still, to a tree with a cleft in it, and is then passed through the cleft by those in charge of it, in the full and firm conviction that his contact with the tree will strengthen him and cause his bones to go together and set hard.

Many a weird-looking Warwickshire peasant who has outwitted Time for twenty years, and who is as tough and gnarled and crooked as the old codlin in his own garden, will point to the tree through whose cleft he was drawn in

his childhood, and will tell you that he would not have been here now if he "hadna been passed through the cleft yon."

This belief in the tree cure, indeed, is as strongly held now as it is old and romantic, and a part of the folk-lore rite in connection therewith is that the welfare of the infant depends, to a great extent, upon the preservation of the tree. To preserve the twin, or double, ash and the tree with a riven trunk is, therefore, the subject of special care to those who are associated with them by means of the cure; for it is a proverb among the peasants of this greenwood that when the tree falls it is the signal for the fall of the life that, in its childhood, was passed through its cleft with the picturesque faith belonging to the rite.

Beginning thus with the early days of human life, it is no wonder that the folk-lore of Shakespeare's greenwood continues in the belief of the rustics until the sands of Time have run out their last grain. The infant when passed through the cleft in the tree is, perhaps, too young to have a clear perception of the meaning of the rite; but when the children have grown to a thinking age they enter as simply and faithfully into the practices of their greenwood as the older dwellers from whom they inherit their observances and beliefs.

Any person passing through one of the sequestered hamlets of leafy Warwickshire, and through a group of boy and girl villagers, which is invariably to be met with there (for where the voices of the cuckoo and the cornrake are heard, there also will be heard the voices of the children), may often have evidence of the child's knowledge of the folk-lore of its neighbourhood brought directly under his notice. One child will promise another to do a certain thing, and will ratify the promise by linking the little finger with the little finger of his or her friend while rehearsing the words:

"Ring finger, bluebell,
Tell a lie and go to hell,"

which are certainly more familiar in the mouth of a Warwickshire child than many other words in its own language.

There is a probability that this poetic method of enforcing the truth of an uttered sentiment dates from the days of Shakespeare, and may have been observed by the young poet himself when making his promise to marry Anne Hathaway in the groves of hidden Shroton, for there is an allusion in one of his plays to a similar observance, where, in the first part of "King Henry IV." (Act 2, Scene 3), Lady Percy addresses her husband, Hotspur, as follows:

"In faith I'll break thy little finger, Harry,
An' if you wilt not tell me all things true."

Doubtless this Shakespearean quotation is the origin of the pretty observance of the village children when desiring to emphasise the truth of their assertions.

The fate of a child is a subject which, in the folk-lore of the peasant mother, seems to have a special significance. It must be born upon a certain day to bring joy to her heart, and so strong is the belief of the average rustic woman in the luck or ill-luck which will follow being born on certain days, that many a mother has been known to make herself seriously unwell because her child has not been born upon the day she wished it to be. The forecasts of the birthdays, which, like so many other examples of Warwickshire folk-lore, are done into rhyme, are believed in by the rustics with a strength which is as picturesque as it is sometimes fatal, for the knowledge of being born on a bad-luck day has a deteriorating influence upon the mind, and makes those so born careless and improvident and neglectful of the future.

According to the rhyming forecast prevalent in Shakespeare's greenwood and rehearsed as occasion may require,

"Sunday's child is full of grace;
Monday's child is fair of face;
Tuesday's child is full of woe;
Wednesday's child has far to go;
Thursday's child is inclined to thieving;
Friday's child is free in giving;
Saturday's child works hard for his living";

and it is almost needless to say which three days of the week the Warwickshire rural mothers desire as the natal days of their offspring.

As there are forecasts in connection with the birthdays of children; so there are beliefs entertained and formalities observed in the country cottages of this neighbourhood whenever a member of the household dies. With the occurrence of death in the homestead it is the common practice to unfasten the lock of every door, and for a space to open all the doors of the house. There is a suggestion of the beautiful in this observance, for the idea is that nothing should be done to prevent the departed spirit from leaving its earthly habitation and soaring away to the heavenly mansions. All, therefore, is made clear for the passing of the spirit on its upward way. Wedded to this formality is the belief that when anyone in the house dies the clock will stop at the exact moment of death.

Though some are merry and some are sad, there are beliefs in the folk-lore of Shakespeare's greenwood which are not without a certain kind of humour. They are in the nature of shafts of ridicule, and are aimed, as a general rule, at women and their endeavour to show themselves the superior sex, though tradition may have dubbed them the weaker. In the country cottages of leafy Warwickshire it must be confessed that many of the housewives, according to their own showing, "wear the breeches," as the saying is among them; and it is perhaps on this account that clumsy but singularly effective rhymes having relation to the position of the sexes are in extensive use in the neighbourhood.

One certain sign of a man's conquest by a woman is, in the belief of these country-folk, to be found in the condition of the sage tree, which grows in every cottage garden in the greenwood. If the sage dwindles and is leisurely in growing, then the husband has the laugh of the wife, because her triumph is not yet complete; but if it flourishes and shows signs of well-doing, then the good man's power is gone, for the rhyme saith:

"If the sage tree thrives and grows,
The master's *not* master, and that he knows";

and none, not even the person most concerned, ever doubts the truth of the words. The deposed master submits with becoming meekness, with the resignation of the fatalist that he generally is; and it is only when his wife whistles in exultation of her conquest that he will venture to retort with biting emphasis that

"A whistling woman and a crowing hen
Are neither good for gods nor men";

a rhyme which may often be heard tripping in critical comment from the tongue of the Warwickshire rustic.

Such are some of the occurrences, formalities, practices, signs, and beliefs

to which such strong adherence is paid by the dwellers in Shakespeare's greenwood. The lore of wood and water, tree and flower, bird and beast, wind and rain, life and death, is part of the character of these poetical, dreamy, far-seeing, and romantic country-folk. Strip them of their folk-lore and they would become ordinary, common-place people; while they retain it, as they are likely to do for ages to come, they show themselves to be a quaint, picturesque race of humanity, worthy of the strength, individuality, and romance of their own historic woodland.

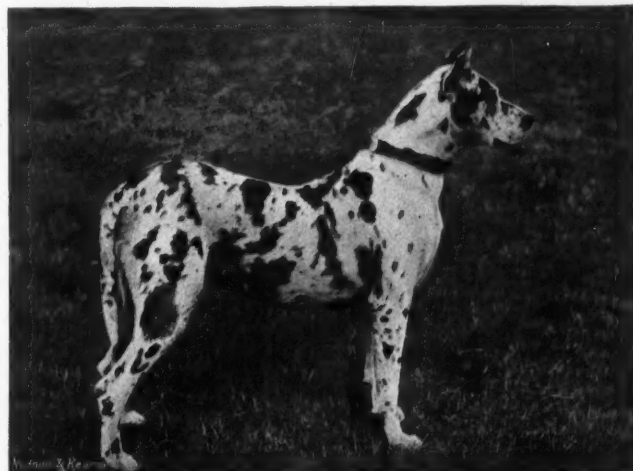
GEORGE MORLEY.



Kennel Notes.

SOME FAMOUS DOGS.

THERE are few things more interesting to the lovers of dumb animals than a comparison between the habits and structural formation of different breeds, and consequently the accompanying illustrations of famous dogs will doubtless be appreciated by readers of COUNTRY LIFE. The first is that of the famous harlequin-coloured, or, as the German admirers of the variety would describe it, "tiger," Great Dane bitch



SENTA VALERIA II.

Champion SENTA VALERIA II., a well-known winner, who possesses the lengthy, clear-cut muzzle and neck, and the sharp, intelligent expression of her breed to a remarkable extent. Her bone and quarters, too, are excellent; in fact, Senta Valeria may be accepted as a typical Great Dane. Then comes the showy sable-coloured Collie NEWMARKET NICETY, a favourite of Her



NEWMARKET NICETY.

Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, the keen yet languishing expression of the eyes being unusually well portrayed, whilst the rough frill upon the chest and feathering down the backs of the front legs come out very well. A further portrait, namely, that of the Duchess of Newcastle's Champion Borzoi VELSK, depicts an almost perfect specimen of a variety which may be accepted as being at present the most fashionable of any in England. The Duchess of Newcastle's kennel of Borzois at Clumber is



DUNELM TREASURE.

only second to one or two of the leading Russian studs, and it is wonderful to consider the amount of trouble that Her Grace must have expended over her efforts to secure some of her finest specimens, as in the Kingdom of the Czar the breed is highly prized, and most of the best Borzois find their way into the kennel of some member of the Imperial House. Borzois, as probably most people are aware, are utilised in Russia for wolf-hunting purposes, their duty being to pursue and hold up a wounded wolf which has temporarily made its escape until the hunter can come up and administer the *coup de grace* with his long-bladed knife.

Another prominent Russian variety of dog which possesses many admirers in this country is the Poodle, a very fine specimen of which is the subject of the accompanying illustration. This is Miss Houlgrave's VLADIMIR, an unusually well-developed specimen of a variety of dog which is capable, so far as its intelligence is concerned, of far better things than passing its life in idleness. Poodles, in fact, when their coats are not too long, make excellent Retrievers, whilst, as probably most persons have discovered for themselves when they have enjoyed the cleverness of a troupe of performing dogs, the capacity possessed by a



JOPPE.

Poodle for learning tricks is superior to that displayed by most members of the canine race. Poodles appear with both curly and corded coats, the hair in the former case being crisp and curly, whilst in that of the latter it consists of long rope-like cords. It has recently been decided that both the curlies and the corded Poodles belong to the same variety, but it is only fair to add that this view is not unanimously entertained by dog lovers.

Following upon the Poodle we come to Mr. Walter

B. Herman's Dalmatian, FAUNTLEROY, another foreign variety, as its name implies, but, nevertheless, one that has been for so long a time domiciled in England as to have become a British breed. The illustration is an excellent one of a Dalmatian, but the ears might be more spotted than they are, and a few more spots on the body would be regarded with favour by a judge. The markings of Fauntleroy are, it may be stated, of a liver instead of the usual black colour, but both are quite permissible in a Dalmatian, which, as will be seen, partakes much of the appearance of a Pointer; and it may be added that cases have been known in which Dalmatians have been broken to the gun, and have proved themselves to be excellent field dogs. A peculiarity of the Dalmatian is that the puppies are born white, the spots appearing when they are a few days old.

The subject of the Schipperke illustration is Mr. S. Evans' Champion JOPPE, the winner of a very large number of prizes, and without a doubt an admirable specimen of the little tailless dogs of Belgium and Holland, which were so fashionable here a few years ago, and which have still a very large number of admirers at their back. In their native country the Schipperkes are largely utilised as guards to the barges which navigate the canals, their acuteness and disinclination to make friends with strangers rendering them very serviceable as protectors of houses or valuables. Their chief peculiarity lies in the fact that they are tailless; but it must not be imagined that they are invariably born so, as the reverse frequently occurs, in which case their caudal appendages are usually removed by their enthusiastic owners. We give also an illustration of Mr. Gerald Clay's smooth-coated Fox-terrier, DUNELM TREASURE, the champion



VELSK.

of her sex, for two consecutive years at Birmingham Show, and a capital varminty-looking Terrier, which looks as though she was not only willing, but quite capable, of running with Foxhounds and of bolting the little red rascal after he had sought the friendly sanctuary of a hospitable earth.

It will be seen from our illustrations that the group of famous dogs includes representatives of many countries, the Boarhound being a German by race, the Borzoi and the Poodle Russians, the Dalmatian a Dalmatian, the Schipperke a Dutchman, the Collie a Scot, and the Fox-terrier an Englishman. Yet all these varieties are bred to perfection in Great Britain, which proves once more the correctness of the old saying, that when our countrymen take a thing in hand they usually succeed in accomplishing the best results. As a proof of this statement, the transformations that were effected in the appearance of such varieties as the Spaniel and the Pointer, both natives of Spain, by our ancestors, may be cited as valuable contributory evidence of the success which has attended the methods of British dog-breeders. From the Spaniel the Setter has been evolved, and in place of the clumsy, lumbering Spanish Pointer, we have the graceful, active, keen-scented solb. flyer of the present day. In later days the St. Bernard is the foreign breed *par excellence* that may be pointed to as providing remarkable testimony to the skill of our countrymen. No doubt dogs raised amidst the luxuries which are enjoyed by the occupants of British kennels must necessarily increase in size; but still the results of scientific breeding are not wholly dependent upon the care bestowed upon the animals, the success of our breeders being more the result of a determination to work upon certain well-defined lines which have been thoroughly thought out; and hence the consistent improvement that is apparent, and more particularly so amongst varieties of dogs which have been introduced into this country from abroad.

On the other hand, it must regretfully be admitted that some of the most ancient and at one time popular British



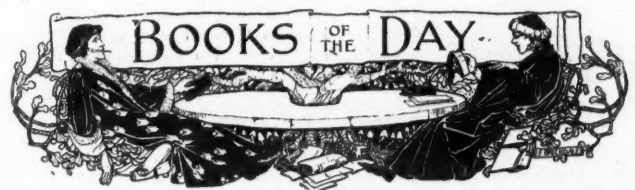
VLADIMIR.

breeds have lost ground as the foreigners have multiplied and increased in popularity amongst us. The Mastiff is a case in point, the numbers of this grand old breed having dwindled down to almost vanishing point; whilst the Bulldog, in spite of the fact that he has three or four clubs pledged to his support, has been so altered in appearance that a comparison between a modern "champion" and the cranks of a generation or so ago is a matter of impossibility. The Irish Wolfhound has practically become extinct, his resuscitation having been effected by a judicious blending of Great Dane and Deerhound blood, which has produced a big, fine dog, which, however, it appears to be impossible to accept as a Wolfhound. It thus



FAUNTLEROY.

seems that our fellow-countrymen have bestowed their attention upon foreign breeds at the expense of native varieties, which upon the whole can scarcely be complimentary to their patriotism, though no doubt a valuable testimony to their skill as breeders.



VERY NEAR TO "R. L. S."

TO happen upon a new novel of the first order of merit by a writer little known to fame is to discover a treasure possessed of a quality which no other kind of treasure has. One can share it freely with everybody else without loss, and even with enhancement of personal enjoyment. Such is the observation which follows as of necessity from the first reading of "Moonfleet," by J. Meade Falkner (Edward Arnold). Mr. Falkner is by no means an unknown writer, for he wrote "The Lost Stradivarius," which received a hearty welcome on its merits from many critics and from the public. But that was long since, as literary memories go, and "Moonfleet" follows at so long an interval that the reader feels over it all the fresh delight proper to the appearance of a new and capable workman in the art of fiction. Taken as it stands, "Moonfleet" is a wonderfully good and stirring book. What then will the readers say when they learn that the author of this highly-finished and exciting story follows an exacting occupation as secretary to the great ordnance and ship-building works at Elswick, and is enough of an antiquarian to have written a scholarly guide-book in Mr. Murray's well-known series. My verdict

upon "Moonfleet" is given without hesitation. It is more or less of the Stevensonian type; it is marked none the less by strong individuality of conception, and by masterly style; it is far better than anything of its kind that has appeared since the days of Stevenson himself. Not in matter but in quality it reminds me of "Treasure Island"; that is to say, it is a rattling story of adventure, told with spirit and yet with refinement, equally suitable to the taste of boy or man, girl or woman.

Moonfleet, where the story opens, is not in the *Times* Atlas; but it is very real to the reader, who feels that Mr. Falkner knows his Dorsetshire as well as John Trenchard or Elzevir Block, the heroes, ever knew it, and that he has drunk as deep of the spirit of the smuggling days as John and Elzevir did of the simulating milk of Ararat. John, beginning at the age of fifteen, is the narrator. He takes us first to the shed of Ratsey the sexton, who is carving the headstone of David Block, a smuggler lad killed by Maskew, retired attorney and magistrate, during a conflict with the Preventive men. Then the two go on to the Why Not?—an exquisite name for a tavern, even if it had not an antiquarian significance—and we are introduced to Elzevir Block, sworn to avenge his son's death, an inveterate smuggler, strong of body and resolute of will. The boy Trenchard knows nothing of the smuggling as yet. What he does know is that Moonfleet is called after the Mohunes, once lords of all those parts, that the great vault under the church is full of dead Mohunes, that Blackbeard, the last and worst of them, haunts the churchyard, and that treasure beyond price was buried with him. Then come a great storm, with waves driven over the pebble ridge, and the village flooded, and the subsidence of the water. But on the next Sunday, the vault beneath the church being still full of water, the affrighted worshippers flee from the church at the sound, as they believe, of the coffins of the Mohunes floating upon the waters below and jostling one another. Then come a great drought, with a quick cracking of the soil, which discloses to the boy, as he sits dreaming in his accustomed haunt the churchyard, a passage into the vault. Once he tries it by daylight, and his courage fails him; but pluck comes back to him in the night-season, and he slips out of window, armed with a candle, and resolves to pursue his investigation. Trembling not a little, he searches in vain for the treasure, and finds nothing better than smuggled casks. A sound in the passage warns him of the coming of the smugglers, who have a short way with boys who know too much. In an agony of terror he clammers up to and hides himself behind a great coffin; in like agony he listens while the smugglers—Ratsey being among them, and Elzevir, their chief—talk matters over, and discuss, amongst other things, the question whether he, John Trenchard, quaking with terror beside the half-rotten coffin above, knows too much. At last they go, and John, creeping down, has a grim experience. First, as he climbs down, the rotten coffin gives way, his hand catches something soft and brings it away. Terror-stricken for a while, he lights his candle again at last, and finds, to his horror, that the thing which he clutched was the beard of Blackbeard. Almost he flees, but with returning courage he determines to pursue his search for the treasure in the coffin itself. And he finds at last a locket, of some discoloured metal, and his hopes are raised to fever heat. But in the locket is nothing more than a parchment scroll with Scriptural quotations marked by chapter and verse, inaccurately as it happens, for long afterwards they are found to contain a most ingenious cypher indicating the whereabouts of the real treasure, a diamond of priceless value.

But it is long before John Trenchard handles the fatal diamond. His candle all consumed, he creeps back along the passage, only to find that Ratsey has closed it firmly. He resolves to sleep and wait for day; but his slumbers last till the next evening. Then, after fruitless efforts, after wild cries through the crevices of the tomb, he assuages his burning thirst with smuggled spirit, is overcome by it, and falls senseless. He awakes in the Why Not? with Elzevir, who has spared him for his likeness to his dead son, tending him. His stern aunt will have no more of him; Elzevir takes him to live at the Why Not?; his career as contrabandier begins.

From that moment onwards all is rattling adventure, with brilliant interludes. For example, the Why Not? is held of the Duchy on lease. But every five years the bailiff of the Duchy holds formal auction, by candle, in the old style, and Elzevir, at the same rent, is always tenant. The formalities have begun, the neighbours have feasted, the candle has been lit, the inch marked off by Elzevir's neck-cloth pin, and Elzevir has made his bid. Enter, after a while, Maskew, who, after a spirited contest which multiplies the rent twenty-fold, outbids Elzevir. The scene is masterly.

"The lump of tallow was worn down now. It was hard to say why the pin did not fall. Maskew gulped out £180, and Elzevir said £190, and then the pin gave a lurch and I thought the Why Not? was saved, though at the price of ruin. No; the pin had not fallen, there was a film that held it by the point, one second—only one second. Elzevir's breath, which was ready to outbid whatever Maskew said, caught in his throat with the catching pin, and Maskew sighed out £200, before the pin pattered on the bottom of the brass candlestick." Then come the landing of things contraband and the carrying of them inland; and in the middle of it the landers capture Maskew spying on them. A grim scene this. Elzevir claims the right to execute vengeance, and is left alone with Maskew and Trenchard. As an inch of candle, with Elzevir's pin in it, had figured at the auction, so the same pin, stuck into the candle in the lantern, is left to drop and to sound Maskew's death-knell. And all the while the boy grows pitiful, for Maskew has a daughter whom Trenchard loves, boy-fashion, and when the pin falls and Elzevir raises the pistol, the boy seizes his arm and disturbs his aim. They were on the under-cliff; the white cliff above. At this dreadful moment the soldiers, in "the tall mitre caps of the 13th," appeared on the edge of the lofty cliff. Elzevir approached to brain Maskew. "Shoot! shoot! in the devil's name," screams Maskew, "or I am a dead man!" Then there came a flash of fire along the black line of silhouettes, with a crackle like a near peal of thunder, and a fut, fut, fut of bullets in the turf, and before Elzevir could get at him, Maskew had fallen over on the sward with a groan, and with a little red hole in the middle of his forehead.

So far, I have given the story in something of detail, with samples of Mr. Falkner's strong and skilful craftsmanship. But now it becomes necessary to curtail. It is not possible to tell at length how the same volley broke Trenchard's leg, how Elzevir saved time and him by a heroic climb up the zigzag path on which the very sheep often lost their lives, how they became fugitives for their lives, living in caves in the Isle of Purbeck. How Mr. Falkner knows and loves that beautiful piece of coast! I may not follow them to their discovery of the meaning of Blackbeard's cypher, or describe the fierce fight between Elzevir and the treacherous warder over the well-head in Carisbrooke Castle, when the glorious diamond was found. It would be pleasant to accompany them over seas to Holland, to stand by while Aldobrand, diamond merchant of the Hague, swindled them; to watch them burst into his

chamber at night as he gloated over his ill-gotten gains. One would like to follow them to the prison and to the galleys; to stand side by side with them when the convict ship, deserted by her crew, was dashed ashore in Moonfleet Bay, and when Trenchard alone was saved at the cost of Ezevir's life. All these pleasures must be denied to me; but they will all be enjoyed to the full by readers of the book. Almost the last fruit of the literary year, it is of remarkable vigour and strength. Mr. Falkner has humour, he has robust strength of conception, delicate power in execution. We realise his characters; they live and move. He will go far if the cares of business permit.

Rough Shooting on a Wild Coast.

AT no great distance from our fishing-place in Norway there was a district which provided exactly the rough, unconventional sort of shooting which some of us loved as a thorough change, for even the best of salmon pools grow a little wearisome after a time. Almost the whole coast of Norway is bounded by rocky cliffs, but here there was a long stretch of flat coast, abounding in bogs and marshes and low-lying moors, to reach which involved only a short journey by road and steamer. We stopped at a charming farm, barely half a mile from the sea, which had quite a rarity in Norway, a length of white, sandy beach, excellent for bathing.

For our shooting expeditions we used to drive, in the farmer's rough cart, six or seven miles along a sandy road parallel with the coast, and leave the horse tethered near a small one-roomed wooden building, which, though now deserted, was used at certain seasons as a school for perhaps a dozen children from the nearest, but yet very distant, farms. The "boys"—as with the privilege of a few years' seniority we older folk used to allude to the two Oxford "men" who were my usual companions on these rough shoots—promptly named the spot Eton, and very funny the title sounded, with all its crowded associations, when applied to this little lonely shed on the desolate, wind-swept moor.

Here we were in the centre of a wild district at times teeming with birds which were resting on their way southwards in their annual migration. The marshes were sometimes so full of snipe that, though it might be an exaggeration to say that they rose in clouds all around us, we could hardly take a step without putting up several. Unfortunately for our bags we had no proper dog, and the local ones which we tried proved worse than useless. With practice we grew fairly clever at marking down fallen birds and making our way over the treacherous, spongy bogs, but we certainly lost far more of our kills than we picked up. However, in spite of every disadvantage, we thoroughly enjoyed the bog work, and often brought home several dozen snipe and a few ducks.

On the moors and grassy downs near the sea there were usually plenty of golden plover. These are always exceedingly shy birds, and, as there was scarcely any covert, they needed most scientific stalking and driving. When we had marked a great flock on an open plain, one of us used to hide behind a rock or a sand-hill, whilst the others made a wide circuit, and, by imitating their whistling and stealthily creeping down on the game, often got a good shot themselves as the birds rose in a cloud and then swept like the wind, sometimes over the head of the one in ambush, too often far away to right or left. But occasionally, especially in wet, squally weather, even the golden plover lost their wildness, and we could walk them up with little precaution, or get splendid shots at them as they swept past within easy range. We browned them remorselessly, and often dropped eight or ten birds to two barrels.

Ducks were fairly plentiful about the marshy pools, but naturally very hard to get, except by flighting. Wild geese we sometimes saw towards the end of the season, but rarely managed to get any. They baffled our most cunning stratagems. Curlew and whimbrel were plentiful, though very wild, and of small waders and shore birds there were often immense numbers, haunting the banks of seaweed which in places lined the coast. Enormous and delicious bird-pies were the reward of our labours. The Norwegians are not good at cooking birds. As a rule they roast or bake them, small and large alike, and cruelly overdo them, so that what should be a delicate juicy snipe is little better than a dry tasteless cinder. We introduced the English bird-pie, quite an unknown dish to the farmer's wife, but she was a clever cook, and with a few hints and a little help, using the breasts only of the shore birds, mingled with duck and snipe, she produced pies the flavour and gigantic proportions of which will linger in our memories for years.

Many a hard day's work did we put in on this bit of wild coast, and many



SPOIL FROM THE WRECK.

a narrow escape had we from being fatally bogged, when the ground was wetter and more treacherous than usual, or a good bird had dropped in a spot which it was just, but only just, impossible to reach.

One day of rough shooting along the shore stands out in my memory among many full of incident. It was a wild wet morning when we started from the farm, and by the time we had reached our ground it was blowing a heavy gale from the north. As we drove along in the teeth of the wind we noticed a large three-masted sailing vessel about two miles from the shore beating up against the wind in a northerly direction, and laughingly remarked that, if it kept on that course, it would run ashore pretty soon, since half-a-dozen miles further north the land makes a wide curve to the west. When we reached our ground, some marshes almost on the coast, the wind was so heavy that I did not care to struggle against it, so I let the boys go on whilst I sat down for shelter and a smoke behind a rough stone boundary wall. As I looked out to sea I saw to my surprise that the ship was now exactly opposite me and about half a mile from the land. Even as I looked it swung round and stood straight out to sea, but the current was sweeping it in, and the attempt to beat off was hopeless. Then suddenly it bore completely round again and steered directly for the shore. As I watched it, spell-bound with horror, I became suddenly aware that the bare desolate shore, on which we had not hitherto seen a living soul, was becoming dotted with rough figures, which seemed to spring from the very earth. Like me, they had been watching the ship under shelter. The ship drew nearer and nearer, with the wind now behind it, plunging forward eagerly through the foaming waves. Then suddenly it stopped. Above the roar of the wind I seemed to hear the crash as it struck the rocks, then lurched forward a little way, then struck again and swung helplessly broadside to the beach, 200 yds. or more away. I saw now that the little crowd on the shore, almost at my feet, were grouped round a small hand-cart. Suddenly my ears were deafened by a harsh grating scream, and a rocket shot out in a wide-sweeping curve towards the doomed ship, but fell short. Amid clouds of foam and spray I could see figures on the ship trying to lower a boat, but it seemed impossible that any boat could come safely through such waves. Then another great billow caught the vessel, lifted it bodily up, and hurled it closer to the shore. Another rocket screamed through the air, and this time the line fell over the ship. It was quickly made fast, but something seemed to be wrong. The crew ran to the boat again; it was lowered under the shelter of the ship; two men were in it. Then I saw a woman carried to the side and lowered into it. Some more men sprang in, and with a few quick strokes they were bumping on the huge boulders only a dozen yards from the shore. Men plunged out among the breakers to meet them, and in a minute all were in safety. Strong arms carried the captain's wife to the nearest farm, and the crew stood safe on land watching the vessel break up.

Within half-an-hour the beach was yellow with the timbers from the hull. As I turned away from the sad scene I heard a shout, and saw the boys stumbling across the rough ground to me, simply laden with birds, chiefly whimbrel. They had found them in immense numbers about a quarter of a mile away, and apparently just resting after a long flight. A few shots had knocked down more than they could carry. We might have killed thousands, I believe, but we had more than enough.

Next morning the gale had gone down, and I drove over again to the scene of the wreck and took a photograph of it. The stern of the ship had by this time swung round to the shore, and the waves were sweeping her deck. A week later she was completely broken up, and as utter a wreck as the one in the foreground, which had come ashore at the same place the previous autumn.

Little is wasted by the thrifty Norseman. On our next visit to the farm we were amused to find that the enterprising farmer had bought from the



THE MORNING AFTER THE STORM.

salvage of the wreck the small windmill used on board for working the pumps, and was fitting it to the roof of one of his sheds to turn a threshing machine. Mechanically it did not prove a great success, but its grey battered sails gave a very picturesque touch to a somewhat uninteresting building. Much about this little farm reminded one of the dreadful scenes for which this strip of coast had so evil a reputation. The gates and posts, and many of the sheds, were built entirely of ship's timber; old shattered boats and piles of great curving ribs, seamed by rusting iron bolts, were lying here and there about the fields; and the winter's stock of fuel was almost entirely the harvest of the sea. It was this very wildness that gave the spot its charm in our eyes, and, no doubt, in the eyes of the birds which haunted it.

G. H. NALL.

ON THE GREEN.

WILLY PARK and Sayers have been playing together at North Berwick in a three-ball match, which was made up by Mr. J. Livingstone as the third man. The last-named had a third from Park and four strokes from Sayers, which looks as if Park was recognised to be the stronger player, though Sayers certainly would not have admitted any inferiority a few months ago, whatever he may do to-day. But times change, and Park is in great form. He beat Sayers, the two playing even, and halved with Mr. Livingstone at the odds, Mr. Livingstone beating Sayers with his points. Then Park and Mr. Livingstone engaged Sayers and Mr. Jackson in a foursome, but could not hold them, the latter pair winning with ease. We may expect to see a good deal of Park at North Berwick in the months to come, in preparation for his great match with Vardon in July, of which the first half is to be played on the North Berwick links.

A few weeks ago, in another column of this paper, we made reference to the Wimbledon Park Golf Club, and it is satisfactory to find that the progress of events is confirming all that was then said in its favour. The club is prospering like a green bay tree; its membership is sufficient, and its green shows a constant improvement. It is now indeed very good as inland greens go, and is delightfully easy of access and delightfully pretty when one arrives. Just lately the club has played a team match against a side of the Seaford Club, and won. This is a very good performance for so young a club as the Wimbledon

Park. Seaford, with Mr. S. H. Fry to lead them, play a very strong side. A week or two ago they defeated the Eistbourne Club rather heavily. At Wimbledon Park Mr. Fry won his match from Mr. Rawson by three holes, but the home side won easily nevertheless.

In a good thick Channel fog the members of the Brighton and Hove Club played for their De Worms Cup and the handicap medal. Mr. S. S. Shultze and Mr. S. W. Cattley, names more familiar a few years ago on the cricket field than on the golf green, tied for the lowest scratch at 81. The fog was so dense as to make play difficult and distances especially hard to judge.

It will come as a piece of news to most people, even to many old Oxford golfers, to hear that there is still some play on the old course on Cowley Marsh, where the College cricket grounds are. Of course, the play here is confined to the non-cricketing terms. But for a while golf on Cowley Marsh was quite abandoned, in the first place when the University golf ground was moved to Headington Hill, and again when it was taken out to Hinksey, where it now is. But it seems that Cowley, as a golf green, has been resuscitated, so that fifty or sixty players use it daily. This is the more interesting, because it was the first nursery of Oxford golf—the first ground that the undergraduates had, that is with the exception of a few holes casually cut on Port Meadow somewhere back in the dark ages. When the University Club was started it began operations at Cowley. The fact that golf still continues to be played there is brought into some prominence by the circumstance that Mr. Ellis has just done the lowest round on record for that course, many as have been the good golfers both of the past and present generations of undergraduates who have played their best there. Seventy-three is Mr. Ellis's latest record-breaking score. The Hinksey course continues to be the recognised University ground, but Cowley is used as a relief course.

One might have thought that the St. Andrews folk, with their two eighteen-hole greens, and yet another of twelve holes, had enough to supply the demand of reasonable golfing nature; but it seems that they have not, for at a recent meeting of the Burgh Commissioners it was resolved to extend the twelve-hole course to eighteen, which will then give this beneficent Alma Mater of golfers three courses of the full length of eighteen holes.

The tournament for the Rhodes' medal of the Dornock Club resulted finely in a finish between Mr. J. Sutherland, owing three, and Mr. M. Macdonald, owing two. The latter won by a single hole.



"Milord Sir Smith."

ONE can never gauge the tastes of "smart Society," but if smart Society "goes back on" the journalistic critics and supports "Milord Sir Smith," then, artistically, smart Society is positively hopeless. No words can convey adequately the sense of hopelessness felt by the sensitive-minded on the first night of this extraordinary piece at the Comedy Theatre. That it should be possible to find a manager—even an actor-manager—who could discover sufficient virtue in "Milord Sir Smith" to give it a production, a production, too, in that West End of London which has had the chance of seeing a "Geisha," a "Greek Slave," a "Runaway Girl," wherein taste governs fun and beauty restrains humour; which has had the chance, also, of seeing a "Belle of New York," wherein harmless vulgarity is excused by its spontaneous vivacity, its bizarre originality, and, yes, its exhilarating joy of life—to present amid these competitors so formless, so witless, so dull and tame a thing as "Milord Sir Smith," shows with startling distinctness the real reason why the Drama in England occupies so much lower a place than the Drama in France, Italy, Germany, or, indeed, any really artistic country of the Continent. Art with us is superficial, merely skin deep. Else would a "Milord Sir Smith" have been utterly, entirely impossible.

Once upon a time Mr. Arthur Roberts, though he might destroy every vestige of symmetry and sense in the work of his authors, at least replaced them by a humour, a vivacity, and a spontaneity of his own, a fugitive, sparkling, haphazard, daring, and inconsequential humour, which carried many a poor piece into success, or, if it spoiled a piece with artistic pretensions, made it up to us by the force of his nimble, if not very elevating, humour. Not so in "Milord Sir Smith." Like the play, Mr. Roberts was turgid. Mere rapidity of utterance and incongruity of speech are not wit, they are not even funny. A haziness as to the words one has to speak is not commendable, even if the written dialogue is replaced by amusing "gag." How much less excusable is it when the merest common-places and ancient "wheezes" replace it. There is nothing clever in the disguise which is merely the disguise of the wig-maker and costumier.

Anyone can do it, and do it without offence. Merely to don the shawl and fringe of a fat nurse, and, while so disguised, to carry on a running fire of pointless, and not always pleasant, remarks, has no claims to cleverness. To put on an oilskin, false whiskers, and a beard, and pretend to be a bathing-machine man, would not be voted smart even in a school charade. Yet these were prominent things in "Milord Sir Smith."

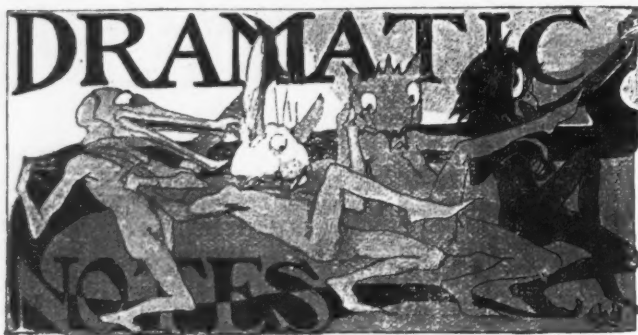
This old story of disguises and amours, and the rest of the stock-in-trade of these entertainments which, we were beginning to hope, had died for good and all, may please the absolutely empty-headed. For all one knows, "Milord Sir Smith" may be a terrific success. That does not affect the question one jot. The only thing worth considering is, is this worthy of the stage, of the stage in its most frivolous aspects? Can we not sift the wheat from the chaff—the frivolity which is allied with beauty, charm, and allurements, with humour and grace and originality; or are all theatrical entertainments in which music and dancing have a part lumped together by an indiscriminating public? If this be so, it is a very pitiful thing. Why should Mr. George Edwardes and the others attempt anything better than "Milord Sir Smith" if "Milord Sir Smith" is good enough for the multitude? That it is good enough one cannot say. At any rate, "Milord Sir Smith" has already run for a fortnight.

The cant of the day before yesterday of a notoriety-seeking school of criticasters which blared forth that the only histrionic art in England was to be found at the music halls, deserved only contempt, which it received. But had "Milord Sir Smith" been in evidence at the time, these eccentric folk would have had a dangerous witness.

To all this there is one exception. In Miss Ada Reeve "Milord Sir Smith" has its redeeming feature. If one could go to the Comedy Theatre with closed eyes and open them only when Miss Reeve was on the stage, he would vote "Milord Sir Smith" capital. In these circumstances I am not at all sure that an evening at the Comedy would not be thoroughly enjoyable. Miss Reeve has a place of her own; there is no one else quite like her. She has all the *diablerie* of the French, all their alertness, all their curious *élan* and vivacity, their spirit and their fascination, without their vulgarity or suggestiveness. She sings captivatingly with a very small voice; she dances enchantingly,

though it is evident that she does not know anything of dancing as an art. She holds one always interested and pleased when she is speaking, though there is no sign that she ever heard of such a thing as elocution. In fact, Miss Reeve has all the fascinations of femininity of the French brand; it seems hardly possible that her stock is Anglo-Saxon. One of these days, in a proper medium, this young actress will take her place at the head of the drama of extravaganza. But she must not waste her time in these "Milord Sir Smiths."

Miss Ethel Sydney, a graceful and clever young lady, has the right to be excepted from the verdict one feels called upon to deliver.



A VERY interesting performance will be that at Her Majesty's Theatre on the morning of January 19th, when Mr. Tree will have the assistance of many popular players for his *matinée* in aid of the fund being raised by Lord Kitchener of Khartoum for the erection of the Gordon Memorial in the Soudan. We are to have "The Dancing Girl," that dramatic, if theatrical, play by Mr. Henry Arthur Jones, with most of the members of the original cast which played it for over 300 nights when it was first presented by Mr. Tree at the Haymarket Theatre—Mr. Tree himself as the dissolute Duke; Miss Julia Neilson as the naughty Quakeress; Mr. Fred Terry as her stern lover; Mr. K. James Fernandez as her austere father; Mr. Fred Kerr, Miss Rose Leclercq, Mr. Charles Allan, and so on. For the part originally played by Miss Rose Norreys, Mr. Tree has had one of his customary happy thoughts—he has asked Miss Ellaline Terriss to assist him. If she is able so to do, the occasion will have an added interest; and Miss Terriss will be to many of us the ideal of the unhappy little cripple whose heart has long been given to the Duke, who, not till so late, turns from the glamour of the Dancing Girl to the love of the true woman.

Only three acts of "The Dancing Girl" are to be given; but the audience will lose little on that account, for, to all intents and purposes, the story ends with the end of the third act, though in the fourth the tangled web is further straightened out. The reason why the play is only to be given in truncated form is that Mr. Jones has come to see eye to eye with his critics, who at the time felt that the last act of the piece was not worthy of that which went before. Mr. Jones is, therefore, unwilling that his play should again be performed in its entirety till he has rewritten the last part of it.

But this is not all we are to see—at increased prices—at Her Majesty's on the morning of the 19th. We are to have a revival of "The First Night," that funny adaptation from the French of "Le Père de la Débutante," in which Mr. Tree made so great a success as an amateur—playing with the band of enthusiasts styling themselves the "Irrationals"—at the Opera Comique many years ago. As the volatile and excitable old Frenchman, Achille Talma Dufard, the father who is so anxious to get his daughter on the stage, he will

have a chance of letting his humorous powers run riot, and it will be interesting for those who saw him play it then to watch him play it now that he is one of our leading actors and managers. For "The First Night" also Mr. Tree promises us a "star" cast. He hopes to persuade Mr. Lionel Brough to portray Parnassus, the author; Mr. Willie Edouin, Timotheus Flat, the manager; charming Miss Eva Moore, the *débutante*; Mrs. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. Herbert Ross, and Mr. Gerald Du Maurier to lend him their valuable aid.

Yet another Musketeer! Before these lines are in print "The Three Musketeers" by Mr. Henry Hamilton will have removed from the Globe Theatre to the Garrick, and Mr. Esmond, whose services are required by Mr. George Alexander at the St. James's, will be replaced by Mr. Robert Loraine, that chip of a fine old theatrical block, who has for the last two years been a prominent member of the Drury Lane dramatic company. Mr. Loraine as D'Artagnan is expected to give a spirited rendering of the part of this very fascinating hero.

So Mr. Clement Scott is going to retire—or, at any rate, to retire from the staff of the *Daily Telegraph*, for it is impossible to imagine so active a man as he, and one who loves the stage, and theatrical criticism, so much, voluntarily laying down his pen while he is still in the plenitude of his powers. Mr. Scott, despite all the alarms and excursions of recent times, is still a potent personality; even though he is no longer the autocrat of the breakfast-table, where we read the success or the failure of last night's play, he still possesses great power, power which is due to the picturesqueness of his pen and his vivid and graphic powers of description. Too much power is not good for any man, and the undisputed sway he exercised over things theatrical for so many years had, no doubt, the effect of rendering him very restless when the new generation came along, when young and energetic competitors wrested from the *Telegraph* its pride of place as the one and only daily theatrical organ, at the same time that it claimed the honour of "the largest circulation in the world." Still, knowing all this, there are very few of us who would wish the pen which has done so much for the drama to be idle. Though in the last few years Mr. Scott has allowed his likes and dislikes some times to override his judgment, one may hope, now that he has made his peace with his arch-antagonist, Mr. Tree, that the old animosities and issues which warped his criticisms will disappear. And Mr. Scott may perhaps remember, now that the storm and stress of daily journalism will no longer fret him, that he himself was young once, and a reformer, and allow that some little good may come out of the journalistic Nazareth where youth—youth which must have its day and is irresistible—rules the roost.

PHEBUS.



THE Cottesmore are a pack which hunt over one of the most favoured countries in the Shires, and a day with them is always a pleasure.

This season, indeed, they are somewhat wide of me as a rule. Therefore I seized the opportunity of meeting them at Stapleford Park. It was an uncomfortable morning, but the day greatly improved as it went on. The assembly in front of the Hall was one of the largest I have seen this season. Of course all the neighbouring hunts were well represented, and I noted, too, the familiar face of Lord Harrington, who seldom leaves his own country in the season. There is one point in which Leicestershire is superior to any other country to hunt in—you never have to wait long for a fox. You come out to hunt, and, fast or slow, brilliant scurry or hunting run, you get what you came for.

On most days you will hunt all day. In visiting other countries I notice the long draws, and wish myself back in the Midlands. True to its character of a fox-producing country, hounds found at once in the Cottage Plantation. There was a catchy scent, and hounds never could press a dodging fox, and at last he was given up and hounds taken to Wymondham. In Laxton's Covert there were two foxes, and one quickly broke; hounds were, however, closely pressing the other. They always say the best fox goes first, but almost any fox is a good one for a time when hounds are close at him. The Cottesmore pack, with their excellent shoulders and powerful loins, get over the ground quickly, and, driving hard on a fair scent, they stuck to their fox to Gartree Hill. The large field, too, stuck to the pack, for the Cottesmore field is probably the hardest to shake off in England. The hounds share with the Belvoir an aristocratic indifference to the field, and come through the horsemen and disregard their pressing in a wonderful way. Considering that when we pulled up at Gartree Hill we had come by way of the Burton Flats and Wild's Lodge, it must be acknowledged to have been a pretty gallop.

In Gartree there are many foxes. True, I have seen five brace at least killed out of it, but the supply is quite unexhausted. Hounds divided, but Gillson managed, as but few



Photo.

GOING TO THE MEET.

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huntmen nowadays care to do, to keep on his hunted fox, and slowly at times, but patiently, and with the assistance of a timely holloa, he got on the line and worked back again over the same line, by which he came to Laxton's Covert once more. Curiously enough, when we got back into Stapleford Park, the scent was as poor as it had been in the morning, and it was with the faintest possible line that hounds felt their way to the Cottage Plantation, and there gave up. A letter from quite a different country tells of a curious incident. Let me quote, since the words of an eyewitness are more vivid than any version another hand can give: "I met Lord Leconfield at Laker's Lodge on Saturday. There were two foxes in the covert, but the huntsman, White, wisely chose one which broke on the side of Round Street Common. The other might well have led to the river, and perhaps to Oakhurst. Bringing his pack sharply to a holloa, the huntsman got away well on the back of his fox, by far the best chance of sport in such a wooded country. The dog pack, with a chorus of music, drove their fox away as if for Kirdford; but a cart headed him in the road, and he swung round, the pack always turning with him, until he touched the Loxwood road, up which he ran, and was killed in the fields at the back of the Vicarage. As we galloped up the road the music of another pack was heard away in the direction of Iford, and we heard afterwards that the Chiddingfold had brought a fox from beyond Shillinglee, and had killed him the other side of the road. Two packs running



Photo.

A CHECK.

Copyright

one on each side of a road, and killing their foxes within a few minutes of each other, is an incident worth recording."

I am sorry to say that the Master of the Quorn is laid up, and Mr. Pennington, who has now lived for a long time in this country, was in "acting" command of the field when on Monday they met at Lodge-on-the-

Wolds. The day's sport was good, and, as will be seen, in particular parts very good. At least so it seemed to me, but perhaps my view was made more rose-coloured by the fact that I was on my best horse—a circumstance which certainly improves every run. From Owthorpe Borders to Cropwell Bishop, in the South Notts country, was our first introduction to the sport of the day, and was a nice little hunt. Of course we had to go back for our next draw, and the Osier-beds at Owthorpe gave us a fox without delay. The pack drove along at a good pace nearly to the covert where the morning fox was found. For a short time hounds checked, but a left-handed cast set them going over the Canal and away for Kinoulton; from thence to Penn Hill was the very cream of the run, and life has nothing better to offer than a gallop over such a country on a good horse, and with a good place near the pack. The other side of Penn Hill hounds wavered, but were taken on to a holloa on the Clawston road. Now they had to hunt, and this the Quorn pack, for all their pace and dash, can and will do, but at Harby the fox was fairly lost. If he would stay at Harby for the Belvoir to bring back it would be well, but foxes regard that once famous covert with indifference. Capell has not found a single fox there this year. The Duke and Duchess of Newcastle are said to have gone to Canada, though what a keen hunting woman wants in a country where it always freezes is more than I can make out.

Looking back over the account of the Quorn run, I see that I should have said that Captain Burns-Hartopp had strained the muscles of his thigh, always a troublesome business, as many of us know to our cost. Of those who were out were Lord Crawshaw, who goes wonderfully well for a man of his years—he had two grand-daughters and a grandson riding in the run—Lady Eva Wemyss, whom I recollect some years ago as going well in the Vale of White Horse; Miss Sheffield, Captain Gage, Elizabeth Countess of Wilton, and of course plenty of others of more or less celebrity in the hunting field.

What is to become of the Woodland Pytchley? This is one of the hunting questions of to-day. At all events, there is no reason to suppose that it will want a Master, although some thirty couple of the dog hounds



Photo.

ACROSS THE PARK.

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OVER THE PLOUGH.

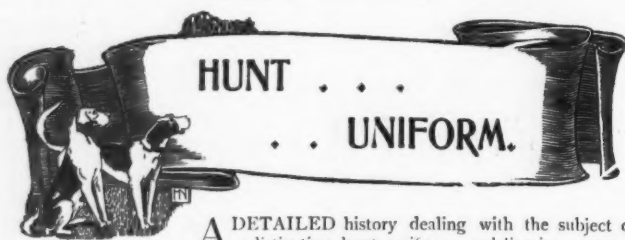
"COUNTRY LIFE."

have been sold to go to Badminton. The West Country is absorbing much of the best foxhound blood. Lord Portsmouth's went to Badminton, the Brocklesby from Lord Lonsdale to Mr. Merthyr Guest, and now Mr. Aulten Mackenzie's beautiful hounds, the result of nineteen years' careful thought and liberal expenditure, are going to Wiltshire. The Pembroke-shire want a new Master, and have not unnaturally thought of Lord Kensington, who, however, is playing polo in India. Somebody has just told me that the Shropshire have had a run of two hours with scarcely a check. Writing of great runs, it is worthy of note how much a huntsman can do by a right decision to make a great run.

You have heard of the Grafton gallop—nine miles in an hour and a-half, and a kill in the open; never a covert touched, and the same fox all the way. Well, after they had been going twenty-five minutes—so a hunting man of thirty years' standing told me—a hound inclined towards Staverton Wood, the covert from which it was believed the fox had been driven across the border into the Grafton country by the Pytchley two or three days before. I think many a huntsman would have blown his horn and galloped off for the wood. Not so Bishopp; he saw hounds he trusted still holding on. In a moment he decided, and held the pack over the road. Hounds took up the line, and thus the huntsman helped to make the great run of which everyone in the Midlands is talking.

Wednesday of last week proved to be a very disappointing day with the Southdown, although I was enabled to reach that very distant meet at the Plough, Upper Dicker, without the bother of boxing. It is said that one of the most interesting descriptions of a day's hunting was written concerning an occasion on which no foxes were found; but alas! my pen refuses to work unless it is able to chronicle good sport. So, if it must be written, Wednesday proved to be a blank day till past three o'clock; and what happened after that I am unable to say, for, having seen Deanland Wood, the coverts around Chiddingfold, and the great part of Loughton Wood tried without success, I stopped no longer, for I had a thirteen-mile ride before me, and, fortunately, a good hack with which to do the journey. By the bye, in the Eastbourne country the finger-posts are arranged on a somewhat novel principle. You look up, and find that you are four miles from that well-known seaside resort; you ride on half a mile, only to find that you have still five miles to go.

X.



A DETAILED history dealing with the subject of distinctive hunt uniforms and liveries, as worn in the field, and at balls, club dinner-parties, and such-like assemblages, during the season, would form a highly-interesting volume; for so far this is an item of hunting-lore which has been much neglected by sporting chroniclers, and in many cases, indeed, one fears that the opportunities have been let slip by which much original information, now no longer obtainable, might have been gleaned. From the period when fox-hunting first began to be systematised as an English sport—that is, from about the middle of the last century—scarlet appears to have been almost universally adopted by the packs then in existence as the distinctive uniform of the disciples of the chase, and for the livery of the hunt servants. For instance, the earliest records of the old Cleveland and Roxby Hounds, as a trencher-fed pack, reveal the fact that tenants on certain properties were obliged by a clause in their lease to keep a foxhound, and hunt him till May-day, while their landlord presented them in return with a red coat every year. At the commencement of the present century, when the sport had increased in importance, until there was scarcely a quarter of England which was not more or less regularly hunted over, this colour had become firmly established as the peculiar uniform of hunting men, while the fashion of differentiating the Master and hunt servants from the remainder of the field by means of distinctive collars and cuffs also began to spread. The latter probably owed its origin to the example set by certain noble Masters of Foxhounds, whose retainers had early amalgamated the old feudal livery of the house with the more modern hunting scarlet. For instance, it is not quite certain, but it is generally surmised, that the familiar "blue and buff" of the Badminton was originally adopted, not only by the hunt officials, but by all members of the club inaugurated by the fifth Duke of Beaufort, who kept hounds in 1786, while a few years previously Lord Vernon, on taking over the Atherstone country, had discarded scarlet, and put the servants into his own family colour of orange. At the present day quite two-thirds of the packs of fox and stag hounds possess distinctive collars and cuffs for the Master and hunt servants in the field, and these badges again are in most instances worn by the members of the hunt with their evening dress-coats of scarlet. The two subjects of morning and evening hunt uniform are, therefore, so closely allied, that in preparing a brief sketch of the evolution of the same it is difficult to know at which end to begin. As, however, what early annals there exist are more explicit about the latter, it will be best to take these first.

The earliest hunt club and distinctive dress uniform on record are furnished



Photo.

A FRESH DRAW.

Copyright.

by the annals of the Pytchley. In or about the year 1752 John George, Earl of Spencer, formed a hunting club at the Old Hall, in the little Northamptonshire village, and removed the hounds from Althorp to the kennels he had built there. It was then decreed that gentlemen who were elected to the membership of this snug coterie, which included among its privileges free board and residence at the Master's charming Elizabethan mansion, should wear a scarlet coat, with white collar and distinguishing buttons, the uniform being known as the "Order of the White Collar," which survives unchanged at the present day. "It is somewhat singular," says the late Mr. Nethercote in his history of the famous pack, "that it is uncertain to what cause this badge of distinction owes its origin; nor is any allusion to it to be found in any of the records of the hunt kept at Althorp." A few years later—that is, in 1762—a band of Cheshire gentlemen established the Tarporley Club, and following the example set them by the Pytchley, chose as their uniform a blue frock-coat with plain yellow metal buttons, scarlet velvet cape, and double-breasted scarlet flannel waistcoat, the coat sleeves to be cut and turned up. The saddlery also came in for attention, since it was ordered that the saddle-cloth should be bound singly with blue, and the front of the bridle lapt with scarlet. The Tarporley Hunt, however, was then only a harrier pack; but in 1769, when it was changed into a fox-hunting one, a new uniform was devised, which, from consisting of a red coat, unbound, with a small frock sleeve, a green velvet cape, a green waistcoat, and a saddle-cloth bound with green instead of blue, was the forerunner of the green collar, cuffs, and facings of its twin successors, the North Cheshire and South Cheshire Hounds. As a Cheshire poet has sung of these early Nimrods:

"Their coats were red as carrots,
Their collars green as grass,
Their spurs were made of silver,
And their buttons made of brass."

When in 1791 Mr. John Corbet came from Shropshire with his hounds, and made Stratford-on-Avon his headquarters, he founded a convivial hunt club, that dined fortnightly at the White Lion, the chief hostelry of the town, in a room called the "Tempest." The evening uniform adopted by its members was black stockings, breeches, and waistcoat, and a scarlet coat with handsome gilt buttons, with the letters "S. H." (Stratford Hounds) upon them, and a black velvet collar. According to Weaver's portrait of John Corbet and his hounds, the distinctive collar at least formed part of the dress in the field, and the club soon became known as the "Black Collars," and as such is referred to in Goulburn's poem entitled the "Epwell Hunt, or, Black Collars in the Rear," which was published in 1807, and described the famous Epwell run on November 14th or December 7th of that year.

At this period Mr. Corbet divided his time between Warwickshire and Shropshire, but to judge from an old picture depicting his hounds running a fox in view of his Shropshire residence, Sundorne Castle, the black collar badge was peculiar to his exploits in the former county alone. For in this picture all the Salopian scarlet coats have green collars of the same shade as those now worn by members of the two Cheshire packs constituting the Tarporley Hunt Club. To Mr. Corbet is generally assigned the honour of the fathership of the Warwickshire Hunt, but the Warwickshire Hunt Club proper was not established till November 8th, 1826, when a rule was passed that "the uniform for all the members not clergymen shall be a plain scarlet coat with gilt buttons having on them an old English 'W'; this uniform to be worn at the club dinners and at the ball." Hence, it will be seen, the famous old black collar disappeared. The year 1825 had seen the formation of Scotland's most famous and most successful pack of foxhounds, the Fife, with a uniform consisting of a plain double-breasted scarlet coat, the buttons yellow and plain, with an "F" embossed, and a straw-coloured kerseymere waistcoat. Apart from the fine strain of blood boasted by this pack, which has on several occasions been drafted into better-known kennels, the Fife foxhounds must always possess a measure of interest for sportsmen, since it was with them, as a native of the county, that Whyte-Melville graduated, and theirs was the first hunt uniform he ever donned.

Even were the material forthcoming, space alone would prevent one from furnishing in this article the story of the origin of all the many distinctive hunt dress uniforms. The most notable, however, may be summarised as follows: The Monmouthshire Hunt sports a dark blue coat, with black velvet collar and cherry-coloured facings, the whole set off by a white waistcoat; the "H. H." has a dark blue coat and buff waistcoat. Of those hounds which vary the scarlet

evening coat with a distinctive collar alone, are the Cotswold, whose is green; the Cumberland, grey; the South Devon, buff; the Percy, blue; the South Staffordshire, maroon velvet; the Fitzwilliam, green velvet; and the Marquess of Zetland's, black velvet. Again, to take those which select the facings as the differentiating quarter: The "V. W. H.," whose are white; the Louth, French grey; the Meath and the Croome, light blue; and the Essex Union, white; while the South Union, Ireland, has a black velvet collar and mauve facings; and the Westmeath, a black collar and white facings.

The foregoing is, one fears, rather an incomplete list, since it enumerates only the more striking variations, but as such may possibly serve some purpose at this country ball-giving time of year, when ladies are continually asking their partners to tell them to what hunt "that man over there" belongs. In conclusion, a word about the most distinctive collars, cuffs, or coats worn by Masters and hunt servants in the field. The servants of the three Berkeley packs are resplendent in yellow coats, and those of the Heythrop wear green plush coats and red waistcoats. Lord Tredegar's men have an unique badge in the shape of black wood buttons, and those of Mr. Seymour Allen sport collars and cuffs of dark blue. The Master and servants of the Belvoir have a crimson velvet collar, the Bedale one of black velvet, the Ledbury one of brown velvet, and the Atherstone one of white cloth.

The subject of the ordinary fox-hunter's costume in the field hardly concerns the information just set forth, but it may be noted in passing that the swallow-tail pink, on a tall man the most elegant coat ever devised, is now only seen at Melton, and not very often there. It is, however, very generally felt that the present generation of hunting men are not quite as particular about their lower extremities as they might be; but then, as Lord Ribblesdale has pointed out, even among the Leicestershire dandies blacking is no longer made of port wine and red-currant jelly, or boot top dressing of champagne and apricot jam.

H. G. ARCHER.

Jock's Rat.

A FEW nights ago Jock killed a rat. But though he did the execution, the credit of the strategy is mine. I drove the back stairs and ran the rat to ground behind the kitchen-dresser. It was I that poked with a stick and made the rat bolt while Jock waited at the other end. There was a brief scuffle, and Jock, with a thorough policy worthy of Strafford, was shaking the dead rat savagely in his mouth.

It was not his first rat, I suspect, for there was nothing of the novice about his performance; but, as it happens, during the year



JOCK.

Jock has been with us he has had no previous opportunity of distinguishing himself in this direction. So the exploit to some extent marked an epoch and revived a passion, the ardour of which disuse had perhaps blunted, for Jock has never been quite the same dog since. Before the fatal night he was an amiable little dog, who liked people to pat him and was not above begging when there were biscuits about. But now he bustles about the house, sniffing in suspicious corners, and disdains blandishments and biscuits alike. His attitude seems to say that things like this are well enough, but there comes a time when a dog ought to turn his attention to more serious matters. This is an estimable and familiar common-place of frivolous youth, and I do not find fault with it; but I resent the superior way in which Jock goes about, as if nobody had ever thought of it before.

If I may be allowed to say so, I consider that Jock's tactics, while they lack nothing in energy, are often clumsy and even

ridiculous. The rats themselves, as they scamper about in the walls and the ceilings, are obviously amused by them, for I detect a certain diabolical ingenuity in the way in which they irritate him. They wait, peering perhaps through crevices, until he is comfortably asleep, and then begin what sounds like a game of Rugby football behind the wainscot close to his head. Up leaps Jock and bounds wildly about the room. Then he usually sniffs angrily, and finally stands in an attitude of expectation staring at the wall. Now I know, and I could assure Jock so, only he would not believe me, that there is no chance of the rats bursting through the wainscot and rushing out for Jock to catch them. Sometimes he begins to scratch busily, as if he could scratch through the wood and the cement, whereas all he does is to damage the paint. Again, I might very well counsel a little more secrecy in his methods, for he seems to labour under the delusion that the rats will be glad of the chance of meeting him. It is with an air of appropriate mystery that I beckon to Jock to come along the passage and explore some likely recess, but it is with the most noisy gratification that he responds to the summons. He lumbers along like any cart-horse, or heavy-booted policeman, giving ample notice of his approach. Naturally by the time he reaches the spot there is nothing to be found, and he glares at me reproachfully, as though I had wittingly started him upon a fool's errand.

However, I have no wish to find fault, for I am quite aware that when it comes to actual warfare Jock is of more use than I am. Besides, I forgive him a little self-conceit, for I know the hour of his supremacy is nearly ended. The fact is that, possibly owing to the bluff honesty with which he carries on the strife, Jock has not been efficacious as an exterminator of rats. As a deterrent he is practically useless, for while he pounds about and whines out in the open, concealed among the rafters the rats increase and multiply. So, as in cases where a local doctor fails and a London specialist is ordered in, a mongoose has been procured from London, a curious peering little creature, which is presently to be let loose to thread the underground labyrinth of the house. Jock, with an excess of professional jealousy, has made more than one attempt to get at it and by summarily ending its career to re-establish himself in his old position of being the only inhabitant of the place who is honestly anxious to meet another rat.

A. H. J. C.

BETWEEN THE FLAGS.

LAST week having been almost a blank one in the racing world, this may not be a bad opportunity to take a retrospect of the first half of the present National Hunt season. Beginning then with the Liverpool November Meeting, at which each season's jumping may be said to make its real start, the Abbeystead Steeplechase, for four year olds, introduced us to a youngster who, although he fell on that occasion, proved himself useful later on by winning the Covert Side Steeplechase at Lingfield. This was the four year old Rigo, by Ocean Spray, who may make a useful horse when he has improved in his jumping. At the same meeting we saw some fairly good chasers going to the post for the Grand Sefton Steeplechase, which was won by The Shaker, perhaps the best young chaser—he is only five years old—in training. At any rate, he showed himself a better horse than Mum, The Panther, Royston Crow, Greenmount, Barcalwhey, Ford of Fyne, or Gauntlet, and as he jumps the Liverpool country well, he will certainly take some beating in next year's Grand National. Barcalwhey, whom he beat by many lengths at even weights, is a nice wiry, lathy sort of horse, and apparently a good stayer, but perhaps he has generally been asked to run a little out of his class. He first failed to give 8lb. to Xebec at Sandown Park, and then he beat a moderate lot in the Great Midland Handicap Steeplechase at Leicester. The Valentine Steeplechase went to The Sapper, another five year old, who jumped the country all right, and, giving him 3lb., beat Chevy Chase into third place. These two, The Shaker and The Sapper, will have to be watched. Another promising young chaser of the same age is Josephus, who ran second to Baslow, giving him 8lb., at Hawthorn Hill, won the Priory Steeplechase at Sandown Park, giving Orange Pip a three-quarters of a length beating at even weights, and won the Novices' Steeplechase, giving Juggler II. 9lb., at Lingfield. As Baslow, who is only a four year old, is as good as the five year old Josephus now, on their Hawthorn Hill form, he will probably make a smart horse. A charming little mare, and a very good one too, is the five year old Irish-bred Parma Violet, who won two steeplechases at Aldershot, gave Baslow 23lb. and a four lengths beating at Lingfield, and followed this up by giving 4lb. and a three lengths beating to Ford of Fyne at Windsor. At Newmarket the aged Stroller won the Crockford's Handicap Steeplechase by a length and a-half from No, from whom he was in receipt of 28lb., with Clawson and Mum, giving them about 14lb. each, behind the pair. These are four fairly good second-rate horses, of whom No is probably a bit the best, and this is about all that can be said of them. Of different class is the four year old Yorkmint, by Minting—Lily of Lumley, who won the Moulton Maiden Steeplechase at Newmarket, the Elvaston Steeplechase Plate at Nottingham, fell at Gatwick, and then took the Forest Steeplechase, beating Baslow and Rigo, at Windsor. At Kempton Park the Stewards' Steeplechase Handicap was won by the five year old Punch Ladle, who, with 25lb. the best of the weights, beat County Council by a neck. At Gatwick, a fortnight afterwards, he beat Sweet Charlotte, at 21lb., and he must certainly be classed as promising. At Sandown Park Xebec beat Barcalwhey somewhat easily at 8lb. Sweet Charlotte is probably the best two-miler in training, and there was decided merit in the style in which she beat Model, giving him 21lb., at Sandown Park, whilst her defeat by Punch Ladle at Gatwick was evidently due to the way in which she was ridden. The winner of the Metropolitan Steeplechase at the last-named meeting was Orange Pip, who, on his Priory Stakes running at Sandown Park, is evidently a few pounds behind Josephus, and the way was paved for him by the falling of Dead Level and Royston Crow, so that the form may not amount to very much. Altogether,

not much can be said for the steeplechasers we have seen out up to now in the season of 1898-99.

Among the hurdlers, the Irish mare Turkish Bath began the season well by winning the November Hurdle Handicap at Liverpool, which she followed up by taking the Grand Annual Hurdle Race at Sandown Park, giving 7lb. and a head beating Ben Armine. The latter, however, would certainly have beaten her but for a mistake at the last hurdle, and he subsequently took the National Hurdle Race at Gatwick by two lengths, at 19lb., from the five year old Bayreuth, with Regret, giving him 14lb., third. The last-named five year old, who was once thought to be nearly as good as Persimmon, became a dreadful "thief" on the flat, and as he is no better over hurdles, he need not be considered here, although he would certainly be a flyer at the game if he chose. A very high-class horse over fences, hurdles, or on the flat, is the beautifully-bred Morello, but he has been burdened with prohibitive weights this season up to now, and will have to wait till the handicappers give him a chance. A very promising young hurdler is the four year old Covent Garden, who won the Sunbury Hurdle Race Plate at Kempton Park, beating the three year old Gralloch by a length and a-half. The latter has been a very unlucky animal, as he occupied the same unenviable position again at Windsor, behind Gallatin, who gave him a two lengths beating on even terms in the Maiden Hurdle Race. The five year old Coffee Cooler won the Leicester Handicap Hurdle Race; old Bach the Winter Handicap, and the aged Barbara the Hever Hurdle Race, at Lingfield; and the first and second of these are apparently very nearly the same class animals, old Swaledale being about 7lb. better than either of them, and as the four year old Silent Watch beat him by a head at 13lb. in the Thames Handicap Hurdle Race Plate at Windsor, Mr. Spender Clay's youngster is evidently useful. A nice young horse that has won once and run second twice out of three attempts is Mr. Vyner's three year old Docetist, who will not be long before he wins again; and a mare that can always win when she is fit, over fences, hurdles, or on the flat, and who will very likely win next year's Grand National, is Gentle Ida.

To sum up this short analysis as briefly as possible, I think that Baslow, Josephus, The Shaker, The Sapper, and Rigo are all fairly useful young chasers. Of the old lot No. Stroller, Clawson, Mum, Xelce, and Barcalwey will all win races in their turn. Orange Pip and Punch Ladle are a couple of promising five year olds, but Sweet Charlotte and County Council are probably the two best old ones we have seen out yet, and the four year old Yorkmint is undoubtedly the best class steeplechaser of the lot.

Among the timber-toppers the five year old Bayreuth seems to have shown the best form up to now, though the staying old Swaledale has done well, as also, in a lesser degree, have Coffee Cooler and Bach. The five year old Turkish Bath is useful; whilst the four year olds Ben Armine, Silent Watch, and Covent Garden, and the three year olds Gralloch and Gallatin, will all be worth following. At the same time I doubt if there is any horse in training that can give much weight to Morello, either across country or over hurdles, when he is at his best. It cannot honestly be stated that the animals we have seen competing under National Hunt Rules this season up to now are a gaudy sample, but perhaps those I have mentioned will be found to be among the best of a sorry lot before it ends. I can only express a hope that we may not have a repetition of the unfortunate accidents which, although the season is yet young, have already robbed us of two good chasers in Rory O'More and Royston Crow, as well as that promising young jumper, Pope's Eye. OUTPOST.

Sir Henry Hawkins.

THE retirement of Sir Henry Hawkins from the Bench, on a pension to which he was entitled years ago, if he had cared to claim it, removes from the public service a judge of strong and notable character. He was the terror of the habitual criminal, inflexibly just and severe when occasion called for strictness, but where there was a reasonable prospect that mercy would be effectual towards reform, he was not averse to leniency. He was a great criminal lawyer, and his strong common-sense and wide knowledge of the world made him a sound judge in almost any case. For dignity of demeanour, for absolute fairness towards prisoners on their trial, he had no equal amongst his colleagues. Moreover, he had a pleasant way of squeezing out dry and intricate cases from his list, and of attracting to his court those cases which the public were likely to follow with almost feverish interest. That he was a keen sportsman, closely interested in the affairs of the Turf, all the world knew, and he rarely, if ever, missed the great day at Epsom, where his shrewd, clean-shaven face, and his neat, sportsman-like figure, were familiar. Sometimes, too, his circuit arrangements happened entirely by accident to be consistent with attendance at a first-rate provincial race-meeting—the writer remembers with amusement noting one of these pleasant coincidences on the Chester Cup Day. But no wise man grudged him his stolen holidays, for on the bench he worked harder and sat longer when necessity arose.

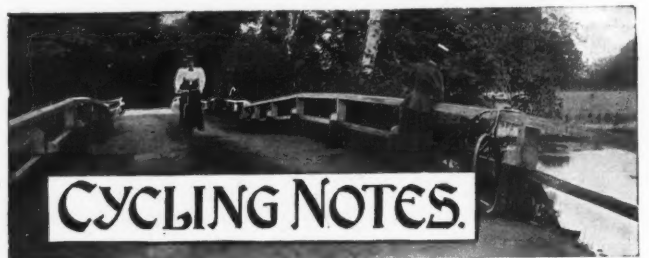
His affection for his dog Jack was warm and genuine, and the writer is glad to be able to add one to the many stories which have appeared in this connection. Years ago a young barrister was on the point of starting from Paddington by the night mail in a carriage which he had contrived to reserve for himself. Suddenly a familiar voice was heard speaking in a tone low, distinct, and severe, on the platform. A compartment ordered to be reserved for Sir Henry Hawkins and his dog, who were going circuit together, could not be found. Obviously nothing remained for the young man save to offer the compartment to the judge and to go elsewhere. But Sir Henry would not hear of the suggestion, and begged the trembling junior to allow him and Jack to travel in his company. A more delightful companion than the judge, full of anecdote and reminiscence, never was. But Jack did not



H. S. Mendelssohn, "A GOOD JUDGE, TOO." Pembridge Crescent.

like the presence of a stranger in the judicial company—it offended his sense of dignity; and when, at last, the junior settled himself to sleep, the insult was more than he could bear. Leaping on to the junior's prostrate form, he nipped him, very gently, on the leg. The junior, who loved dogs, cared not a whit; but the heartfelt apologies of the judge are a pleasant thing to remember. He spoke as if an equal and a familiar friend had committed an unpardonable breach of etiquette. And then, to use the language of Tommy Atkins, he turned to Jack, more in sorrow than in anger, and "spoke to him a treat." It was as though a brother had sinned. From that night onwards the junior could never bear to hear Mr. Justice Hawkins belittled.

A sportsman in private life, he was, albeit the most dignified of judges, instinct with the true sporting spirit on the bench. He played the game fairly and squarely, and he expected those who were before him to do likewise. He is a great loss, but he has earned his rest; may he long be spared to enjoy it.



BIGGER than ever was the Paris Cycle Show of 1898, or, to give it its full title, the Salon du Cycle et de l'Automobile. It was held this year in the Galerie des Machines, on the Champ de Mars, a still standing portion of the great Exhibition buildings. A finer hall for the purpose could hardly be imagined, for the floor space is immense and the lighting excellent. Unfortunately the heating was quite another story, for the exhibitors were refused permission to use any stoves or heating apparatus whatever. The exhibitors themselves must consequently have had a peculiarly cold time, and for the first day or two the visitors would share the same experience, for the change in the weather did not come about until later, and the clothing that was sufficient for exercise out of doors was scarcely warmth-giving enough for a slow perambulation round the spacious but chilly show.

The show was extraordinarily well patronised by the Paris public, notwithstanding which fact they were able to move about in comparative comfort, for the gangways were exceptionally wide, and the only places where "circulation," as the French say, was in any way difficult were in the annexes devoted to the display of accessories and tyres. The central portion of the hall was devoted to the display of cycles, and all round the sides were every species of autocar and motor-cycle. Some idea of the dimensions of the show may be gathered from the fact that the catalogue numbers ran nearly into six hundred figures, and the insured value of the exhibits was 2,500,000fr. As a whole, the display of

machines was bright and attractive, but the French makers, with one or two exceptions, did not come within measurable distance of the English in regard to the amount of money they expended upon the decoration of their stands. Many of the signs, etc., seen at the National and Stanley Shows have cost hundreds of pounds, parqueterie work and elaborate wrought-metal devices being liberally employed.

Very few English makers were represented, but the American makers were there in full force, and in a sense dominated the show, for though the native manufacturers were numerous, their machines were largely after the American style. In many instances it would be difficult to distinguish between a French and an American cycle without looking at the transfer, for single fork-crowns and bent chain-stays are largely incorporated into the French machine, together with wooden mud-guards, or none at all, an entire absence of gear-cases, and not infrequently steel brake-spoons unshod with rubber. The ladies' machines looked even more American than the diamond-frame safeties, for the wooden chain-guards, laced across, which are a typical feature of the American mount, appeared on the French products universally.

One of the most remarkable features of the show was the number of chainless machines. All these were of the bevel-gear type, the cross-roller not yet having appeared upon the scene. The presence of so many bevel-gear machines is no doubt due to the energy with which the original pattern was pushed, the French public apparently not having yet realised the futility of records as a tribute to the value of any particular machine. It is a curious and interesting fact that the very man who rode the chainless machine to victory in several important events himself subsequently declared, after having cancelled his contract with his employers, that he had suffered seriously from the employment of the gear, and expected that the ill effects would remain with him for the rest of his life!

Motor-tricycles appeared in large numbers throughout the Salon, not only among the exhibits of the dealers in automobiles alone, but on the stands of very many of the cycle-makers themselves. These motor-tricycles are capable of attaining a very high speed, and are easily manipulated, and, though costly, are yet very much below the price of motor-cars proper, and thus enable many to indulge in automobilism whose means will not allow them to purchase a motor-waggonette, or even a phaeton. It may be added that there is no speed limitation in France upon automobile vehicles, and therefore users are free, practically speaking, to tear along the highway at any rate they fancy. What this amounts to may be gauged by the fact that one well-known French inventor has produced a motor vehicle which has actually been ridden over sixty miles along the road within two hours.

Another feature of the Salon which may be attributed to the spread of automobilism was the presence of a large number of wickerwork victorias for attachment to the rear of tricycles or even bicycles. Though capable of being used along with ordinary machines, they are, of course, more suitably adapted to those which are mechanically propelled. These victorias were elegantly made, in dainty colours, and had a very taking appearance. In one case an attachment of this description was shown placed side by side with an ordinary safety. The chaise had only one wheel, on the off side, the rear side being connected by couplings to the off side of the bicycle. The object of the inventor was to provide a safer means of carrying a child, but a victoria was also shown made large enough for an adult passenger.

Of novelties and freaks the Salon was curiously devoid. There were no free-wheels, no rim brakes, one might almost say "no anything" that marked an advance in the way of improvement or even of inventiveness. Almost the only thing that was unfamiliar to the English eye was the display of acetylene lamps of one kind or other, most of which were much simpler and lighter than the majority of those at present in Great Britain.

THE PILGRIM.



MY DEAR ROGER,—

This week we have been following the second Richard's advice, and talking of "graves and worms and epitaphs." The death of men far more useful to the State and far more prominent in the public eye than were Christopher Sykes and Ferdinand Rothschild could not have caused one half the talk and comment among, or been greeted with one half the expressions of regret by, the people one meets every day. In the case of Christopher Sykes, it was his friendship with the Prince which caused him to be known outside his own immediate circle, though his manly disposition and old-world courtesy of manner endeared him to all who were brought into even temporary contact with him. Baron Ferdinand, though he was, as you know, equally intimate with the Marlborough House family, had other claims to public respect. In art circles he had the reputation of being one of the most tasteful and well-informed collectors of articles belonging to the Renaissance period, as well as to the French school of the last century, while to the general public it was his unobtrusive but thoughtful acts of charity which rendered him popular. All London knows how he yearly made happy all drivers of buses passing his town house by his gift to each of them at Christmas-time of a pair of pheasants.

But the charity of the Rothschilds is an old story. It was only the other day that E— was telling me a story of Lord Rothschild which was characteristic. E—, as you know, lives near Reading, and not infrequently travels down in the afternoon by the same train as the great financier. Chatting together the

other day, the conversation turned on the manufacturing interests of the country. "I suppose you never knew," said Lord Rothschild, "that I am a manufacturer myself?" Then he explained that among his other real estate property he owned a fairly large silk mill. About a year ago the silk manufacturer came to him and explained that, on account of the hardness of the time, and the lack of profit, he was compelled to determine his lease. "I thought," said Lord Rothschild, "it was a pity that the factory should be closed, especially as it employed some 200 workpeople, and so took it over myself, and have been running it ever since. I cannot say I make much profit out of it, but, at all events, it meets its expenses." He spoke as though the whole transaction was of the most selfish character, but E— afterwards found out that what really led him to take this unusual step was his desire to prevent the mill hands being left without employment. For many months the business was carried on at a loss, which loss he cheerfully paid, solely in the interests of the workmen and their families. As E— very truly said, "This seems to be the truest sort of charity, however it may be viewed from the point of view of the strict political economist."

I wrote to you the other day about the exhibition of Fragonards at Agnew's. Charles H— told me an interesting story bearing on this. He met some time ago the wife of the Frenchman who owns the actual house in Paris for the decoration of which this beautiful series of pictures was designed. He was naturally smitten with the idea of purchasing the pictures and placing them in the actual position for which they were intended. Accordingly, he came over to London and interviewed Messrs. Agnew. The price demanded, however, has led him to turn his attention in another direction as regards the decoration of his house. £50,000 was the modest sum demanded for the paintings, so that the decoration of one room alone would have exceeded by many times the value of the whole house, of which the room forms only a part.

Old G—, who, as you know, is an indefatigable collector of old furniture, was moaning to me the other day about the ridiculous prices which fine pieces now bring in the open market. He had travelled to Edinburgh to attend an auction sale of old furniture, and, to his sorrow, a chair, which he had expected would fetch about £30 or £40, had reached the amazing figure of £670. "If things go on at this rate," said G—, "it will only be the millionaire who can afford to buy a decent piece of furniture." The explanation of this extraordinary price turns out after all to be a somewhat amusing one. It seems that the chair in question had carved across its back the name "Dunottar Castle," so Sir Donald Currie had, seeing in this fact a link with one of the best-known ships of his famous line, made up his mind that at any reasonable price he would have it. He therefore commissioned an Edinburgh broker to buy it for him. Some time afterwards he forgot his order to the Edinburgh man, and gave precisely the same instructions to a Glasgow broker. It was these two bidders who, after the chair had reached £30, alone remained in the competition, and ran it up in bids of £10 to the price at which it was sold. So a rather misleading precedent has been set as regards the value of old oak furniture, and Sir Donald Currie is the proud possessor of what is probably the most expensive old oak chair in the United Kingdom, while G— goes round rubbing his hands in satisfaction.

Mary, who has often expressed to me her pitying sorrow for the mental attitude of a housewife who can buy her Christmas pudding ready made, instead of compounding this deleterious dainty according to a family recipe running back from generations, would be even more horrified were she to know the extent to which the purchased plum-pudding is foisting itself upon the community. I am told that one firm of pastry-cooks and confectioners alone has manufactured no fewer than 70,000 this season. It began making them in August, and, putting the average weight of them at 7lb. a-piece, has thus turned out something approaching 500,000lb. weight of plum-puddings this year. I must confess to a feeling of sympathy with Mary in this respect, more especially as these shop articles seem all to be made in basins, and I have always been taught to look upon the plum-pudding which is not boiled in a cloth, and turned out on a dish in the shape and sometimes in the consistency of a cannon-ball, as a sign of rank heresy.

Yours as ever,

CHARLES TOWNLEY.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MOORHENS AND PHEASANTS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I should like to know whether it is true that moorhens will drive pheasants away from their feed? I shoot a good deal in a part where there are many moorhens, and have always been in the habit of sparing them; but now a friend of mine has told me that I am wrong, that they drive the pheasants from their feeding-places, and so dispose them to wander. May I ask you whether this is a correct theory. It seems very improbable that so big a bird as the pheasant should submit to be ousted by so little a fellow as the moorhen; yet I am assured that it is the case.—QUERRY.

RETRIEVER REFUSING TO TOUCH WOODCOCK.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

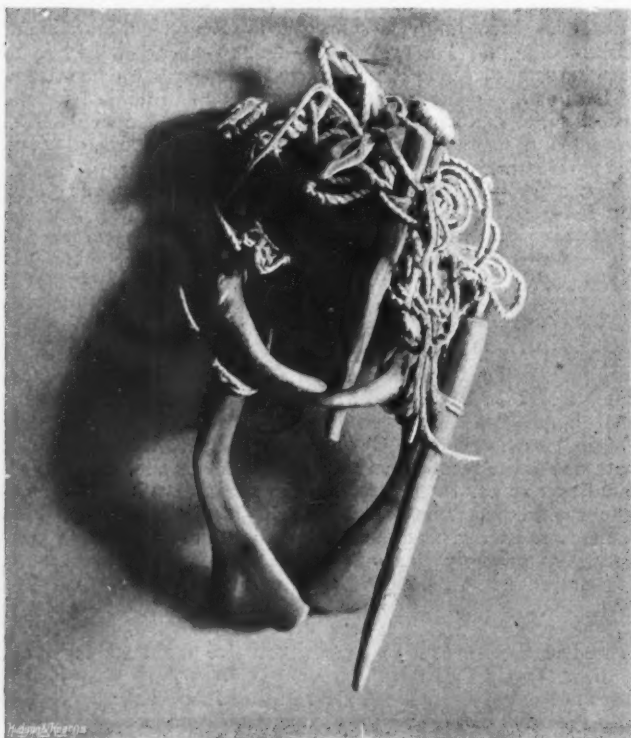
SIR,—I have been surprised at finding that one of my dogs, a fine retriever, will not have anything to do with a woodcock. It is quite curious to see his behaviour. He runs up to the bird as soon as he gets its wind with the greatest eagerness, as though he would be delighted to bring it to me; but no sooner does his nose come in contact with it than he turns away with a look of the greatest disgust on his face. I should be glad to hear whether this is a common thing, or whether there is any way by which I can break him of this dislike. I live in rather a good woodcock country, and he may be the means of losing me many of them.—SCLOPAX.

[We do not remember ever seeing a retriever decline a woodcock, though many retrievers decline to bring a snipe. The only way that we can suggest of breaking the dog of this inconvenient peculiarity is regularly to set him to school again. Endeavour to make him retrieve a dead woodcock according to the methods on which he was originally taught to retrieve game in general, and reward him for obedience. But if he is an old dog, we fear that he will never overcome his evident repugnance to the bird.—ED.]

A PAIR OF FALLOW BUCK'S HORNS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I think the accompanying photograph of a pair of fallow buck's shed horns may interest your readers. Last spring a large fish-pond was being laid out in my deer park, and one day the stakes and cord used for the purpose of levelling the ground had disappeared. Some time afterwards my gamekeeper found the shed horns in a thicket, quite entangled in the cord and stakes, as seen in the photograph. I suppose that the buck, whilst roaming about and



grazing near the site of the future pond, got his horns caught in the cord, and all his efforts to rid himself of it proving unavailing, and only entangling them all the more, he was forced to go about with his singular head-dress until the time for shedding his horns came round. As it proved impossible to undo the cord and free the horns, I have decided to keep the strange trophy as it is, and I think everyone will agree with me that it is a unique one.—KÖNIGSWARTER, Schloss Kwasney, Post Solnitz, Böhmen.

ETIQUETTE IN COVERT SHOOTING.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—Shooting, as I happen to do, in many different parts of England and Scotland, it is amusing to see how very different locally is the etiquette in covert shooting about taking your neighbour's bird, or shooting in the tail a bird that might have given another gun a shot at its head. The highest perfection of courtesy we find, I think, in the great shooting counties, notably Norfolk, where a man going with the beaters would no more think of shooting a bird, even though he were a high and good bird, going forward to the heading guns than the French, on a certain historical occasion, could think of firing before the English. As for shooting what is obviously another man's bird, it happens so rarely that I think we are justified in saying that "it is not done." It is also as contrary to the etiquette to fire a long or doubtful shot. A new guest thus offending is not likely to be asked again. If you go more into the Midlands, or in what are called the Home Counties, you will find much less formality. There is a disposition, not confessed in so many words, to shoot where there is a chance. If a man shoots another's bird he apologises indeed, but thinks that by the apology he has more than covered an offence which, committed in Norfolk, would have made him wish to sink into the ground for shame. But still long shots are not the rule, but the exception. The rule as to the heading guns taking all the birds that go forward is less severe. Passing on from these to the mountainous counties, Devonshire, Wales, parts of Scotland, and so on, the "grand manner" is banished nearly altogether. True, one does not seek to shoot another's bird, but if one so does, by accident, all there is to say is, "Oh, well, I had to shoot when I got the chance," and that closes the incident, and gives a key to the whole difference in etiquette. In those broken counties one

has to "shoot where one can get a chance"—long shots, because likely enough there will be but few near ones, difficult shots, because there will be few easy ones, birds that might go to another man, because, in fact, you cannot tell where they may go to. That, no doubt, is at the bottom of the different practices in different counties. It would be a very good thing if people could realise this a little more clearly and more generally. I have seen a man accustomed to shooting in Norfolk, in the county of the "grand manner," infuriated by the little ceremony with which birds were shot, that in strictness were his, in other lands, and have seen, too, a shooter from those other lands transported to Norfolk and violating every rule of the strict etiquette that obtains there, to the fury of the native people. And yet if people could only realise how the difference in practice arose out of the nature of different localities, it might serve to mitigate their fury, both on the one side and on the other. It is in this humble hope that I venture to address you this letter.—UBIQUE.

PHEASANTS FLYING BETTER AFTER MUCH RUNNING.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I have a certain covert on the sides of a round hill. It is a place where it is very hard to get the birds to rise. Their tendency is to run round and round the hill all the day long, and the wood is too big to "stop" all the beats properly. My keeper has an idea in his head that the birds would fly better on the second day—that is to say, he thinks if we were to shoot it two days running the pheasants would be so leg-weary on the second day that they would be willing to fly. I should be very much obliged if any reader could tell me of his own experience whether this fanciful notion is likely to have anything in it. It might be correct. I should not propose to try it exactly as the keeper suggests, by shooting the wood two days running, but rather by sending beaters through the wood the first day, with the outsiders well stopped, so as to keep the birds on the run, and then perhaps they would fly on the second day. But I should very much like to hear whether anyone has given any trial to this queer plan.—P. L. M.

CARBON BURNER LAMPS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I should be greatly obliged if you or any of your readers who may have had experience of them could kindly tell me whether the Lee Stellaferm carbon burners are good for the lighting of a billiard-table where oil is the only possible illuminant. If you could give me any information on this head I should be very grateful. I am thinking of having them put in, but should like to hear the experience of those who have tried them.—F.

[It so happens that we have lately been making some trial of these burners for billiard-room lighting. There cannot be the slightest question of the excellence of the light given, and these burners have the great merit of not requiring the wicks to be trimmed, the oil soaking up through the carbon and being lighted at the top of the carbon ring, the wick by means of which the oil is brought up to the carbon being an inch or two below the flame. This is not only a saving of trouble, but also obviates the danger of smoked and cracked chimneys that may arise from an unevenly-trimmed wick. For the purposes of ordinary lighting we have a very high opinion of the carbon burners, finding that a lamp fitted with them gives considerably more light than the same lamp with the ordinary duplex burner. But for the special purpose to which our correspondent refers, we are not quite sure that they are very suitable. They seem to throw the light well on the table, but the disadvantage that has seemed to us to attach to them is that they give off a good deal of heat. It is probably impossible to have a really fine light from oil lamps, however arranged, without much heat, and perhaps it is merely in the proportion that their light is brighter that their heat is greater. In a billiard-room, however, where there are necessarily many lamps in a small space, this is a considerable drawback. For ordinary purposes the heat is of little moment, and the burners can be fitted to any duplex lamp's receiver, for all these, so far as we are aware, are made on the same pattern. It is just possible that our correspondent might get as much light as he wants from four of these burners replacing the six of the duplex, in which case, of course, the relative degree of heat thrown off would only be in the proportion of four to six.—ED.]

LAWNS AND ROSES.

[TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."]

SIR,—I shall be much obliged if you will kindly tell me through your paper the best way to treat a lawn which has become very mossy and weedy. Last spring it had a dressing of soot, but it is no better. Also I should be glad of a little advice as to laying out a small rose garden. Should roses be planted according to their sorts or colour, and do you recommend the beds to be symmetrical in shape, or not? I wish for a good edging for the paths between the rose-beds. Are stones good if low-growing plants are allowed to grow over them, or does box look better? I shall be much obliged if you will kindly give me a little advice.—DEERHOUND.

[The lawn seems in a bad way, and probably requires draining well. As, however, it would be expensive to take up all the turf and relay it, try the following measures as a final remedy. If these do not succeed you must drain the lawn. We should first rake off the moss and give the grass a sharp brushing. Give a sprinkling of lime, and in March a heavy dressing of light soil mixed with a liberal amount of well-decayed manure or road-scrappings. Add leaf-mould, soot, and a little bonemeal. If this does not succeed, you must take more drastic measures and lift the turf. Write to us again if not successful. We should have been better able to advise you as regards the rose-beds if you had sent a little plan of the garden. Remember, however, that the beds should be of simple shape, not diamond, or any other fancy pattern, and placed upon the outskirts of the lawn. A bed of simple rectangular shape is better than any design. Group the roses, that is, have a mass of, say, six plants of one variety, and plant them sufficiently apart to introduce pansies, mignonette, or even carnations between them. The tea-scented roses on their own roots are the most precious. Avoid standards, hungry hybrid perpetuals, so called, which seldom flower more than once, and plants on the Manetti stock. Dwarf tea-roses are the best, choosing such varieties as 'G. Nabonnand,' 'Edith Gifford,' 'Mme. Charles,' 'Marie Van Houtte,' 'Dr. Grill,' and 'Gloire Lyonnaise.' Soft stone, with creeping plants near, so as to cover it in time, makes a charming edging. Such edgings as these are little flower gardens in themselves. White plants are pretty edging plants also.—ED.]

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SALMON-FISHING in the Upper Usk and well-furnished COUNTRY HOUSE to be LET till the end of October or for a shorter period. The residence occupies a lovely situation amongst some of the most picturesque scenery in Wales, and contains ample accommodation for a large family; beautiful gardens and grounds sloping to the river. The fishing (about two miles) is well-known, and includes twelve salmon catches. Four miles from a station, and ten from Abergavenny.—Personally inspected and recommended by Messrs. WALTON and LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. (14,364.)

STAFFORDSHIRE (on the borders of Cheshire).—To be LET, for a term, with shooting over 4,000 or more acres, a well-known and most sumptuously furnished MANSION, situated about three hours by rail from London, and four miles from an express stopping station. The residence is an exceedingly handsome structure, is situated on red sandstone and occupies a commanding site 600 feet above sea level. It stands in a large well-timbered park intersected by a series of eight ornamental pools well stocked with trout, and affords accommodation for the reception of a large establishment, while the arrangements of the house are admirably suited for the purposes of extensive entertainment. The gardens and pleasure grounds are of a choice description and contain a full complement of glass. There is ample stabling accommodation with cottages for servants. The whole is in a state of first-class repair; the water supply is excellent and the drainage perfect. The estate has good sporting qualifications, 3,000 pheasants could easily be reared. Hunting is obtainable with four packs of hounds, the kennels of the nearest pack (four days a week), being within four miles of the house.—Personally inspected and strongly recommended. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, London, W. (14,064.)

NORTH DEVON.—A mile-and-a-quarter from Bow Station, on the L. & S.W. main line, and between Crediton and Okehampton. The charmingly positioned FREEHOLD PROPERTY known as HILLERTON CROSS, comprising an area of about 80 acres, and including a comfortable FAMILY RESIDENCE in an excellent state of repair, occupying a perfectly sheltered site, about 600 ft. above sea level, commanding in the front magnificent panoramic views of the Dartmoor Hills, and at the back an extensive outlook extending to Barnstable, the Welsh Hills, Exmoor, and the Wellington Monument, the stretch of landscape being absolutely unrivalled in the county. The grounds are of a well matured and inexpensive character. There is a substantial and newly fitted set of agricultural buildings, with stabling for ten horses, three capital orchards and gardens, while the land is all in permanent grass of the best description, with the exception of eleven acres seeded down this year. There is an adequate supply of water, and the drainage is excellent, with a natural outfall. Good shooting on the estate, while fishing and hunting can be had in the neighbourhood, Bow station being a favourite meet of the bounds.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE will offer the above for SALE by AUCTION at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C., on Tuesday, July 26th, 1898, at TWO o'clock, unless sold meanwhile privately.

Particulars and orders to view can be had of Messrs. SPARKES, POPE & THOMAS, Solicitors, Essex, or of the Auctioneers, 10, Mount Street, London, W.

ASHLEY RATHO, MIDLOTHIAN.—Preliminary announcement of sale of the exceptionally choice and moderate-sized RESIDENTIAL and AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY known as "The Estate of Ashley," situated in the parish of Ratho, about two miles from Ratho and Gogar stations, on the Glasgow and Edinburgh Railway, and about seven miles by road from Edinburgh. It comprises an interesting old-fashioned stone built residence, standing in matured gardens and pleasure grounds, and possessing first-class stabling for nine horses, together with the exceedingly fertile and well-cultivated farm known as "Freeland," with its substantial and well arranged homestead, together with two lodges, and five cottages, the whole occupying an area of about 251 acres.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE will offer the above for SALE by AUCTION at an early date, unless an acceptable offer be made meanwhile by private treaty.

Particulars and plans are in the course of preparation, and when ready may be obtained of Messrs. MELVILLE & LINDSAY, W.S., 110, George Street, Edinburgh, or of the AUCTIONEERS, at their offices, 10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
SURVEYORS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
SURVEYORS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

SUSSEX.—In the heart of Ashdown Forest; a famous golfing district. The delightful FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE, known as "HARTFIELD GROVE," two-and-a-half miles respectively from Forest Row and Hartfield Stations, five from East Grinstead, and ten from Tunbridge Wells. It comprises a most picturesque FAMILY RESIDENCE, standing on a dry sandy soil amidst grounds of extraordinary natural beauty, and commanding views of many miles of rolling heatherclad moorland and vast tracts of woods. It is approached by a long carriage drive from an entrance lodge, and contains about twenty bed and dressing rooms, a fine hall, billiard and four reception rooms, and all conveniences, together with stabling, cottages, farmery, and other appurtenances. Also two detached holdings, possessing unexampled sites for the erection of residences.

Messrs. WALTON & LEE will offer the above by Auction, at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, E.C., on Tuesday, July 26th, 1898, at 2 O'CLOCK (unless sold meanwhile privately), first as a whole, or so falling, in 3 lots as under.

LOT.	A.	R.	P.
1. Hartfield Grove with grounds and park	45	1	16
2. Furnace Farm with house and buildings	16	1	10
3. Gurr's Cottage, garden, and pastures	1	1	8
	A. 62	3	34

Particulars of Sale may be had of Messrs. RAPER & ELMAN, Solicitors, Battle, Sussex; or of the Auctioneers, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.



ON the borders of SUSSEX and KENT.—Within a quarter of a mile of Wadhurst Station, and five miles of Tunbridge Wells, one of the most salubrious and delightful situations in the South of England. The exceptionally charming RESIDENTIAL and SPORTING ESTATE known as "Dewhurst," comprising an area of about 250 acres (four fifths of which is excellent grass land, and 38 acres wood), and including a handsome FAMILY MANSION of moderate dimensions, occupying an admirable site on high ground, amidst beautifully wooded surroundings, seated in splendidly matured pleasure grounds, and commanding views of unsurpassed beauty over a wide stretch of characteristic Sussex scenery. The kitchen gardens are walled, well stocked, and contain a full complement of glass. The stabling answering the requirements of the mansion comprises twelve loose boxes, with every essential convenience; while there are also 60 other loose boxes with all accessories, riding school, farm buildings, and eight cottages; the estate being admirably adapted for the purposes of a horse or thorough bred stock breeding establishment. The premises practically throughout are in the most perfect condition, and the sanitary arrangements have been recently renewed. There is a plentiful supply of water, and gas is laid on from private gasworks. Besides the residence and land held therewith the property is divided into two farms, each with first-class homestead and buildings, and for its size, affords very good shooting. It is bounded for some distance by a trout stream, and hunting may be enjoyed with foxhounds and harriers.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE will offer the above for SALE by AUCTION at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C., on Tuesday, July 26th, 1898, at TWO o'clock precisely, unless sold meanwhile privately.

Particulars may be had of Messrs. S. W. JOHNSON & SON, Solicitors, 5, Gray's Inn Square, W.C., or of the Auctioneers, 10, Mount Street, London, W.

£40,000 WILL PURCHASE a very choice RESIDENTIAL ESTATE of about 1,200 acres within one-and-a-quarter hours of London. The MANSION, which is most beautifully situated, with extensive views, is a very handsome erection, and contains some very fine reception rooms (elegantly decorated and fitted) and about twenty bed and dressing rooms. The grounds are very picturesque and varied, but not inordinately expensive. The land is all let (except a small home farm), to an old tenantry at times rents, and the Estate generally is in first class order throughout. Excellent shooting, and hunting with three packs. Personally inspected and recommended.—Apply to Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, London, W. (8200.)

BETWEEN LONDON AND MANCHESTER.

A RARE opportunity of acquiring at "times" price, to an immediate purchaser, a splendid RESIDENTIAL ESTATE of about 5,000 acres, most compact, with a large extent of covert. The mansion stands high in a very fine park, and is in every way suited for a family of means and distinction. The sporting characteristics are first-class. The land is all let, and well farmed by an excellent tenantry.—Full particulars of the agents, Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
AUCTIONEERS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
AUCTIONEERS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.



THE above old-fashioned moderate-sized RESIDENCE, together with the surrounding attractive well wooded estate of about 400 acres to be sold. It occupies one of the most charming and healthy positions in the New Forest. The house contains four reception rooms, ten bed and dressing rooms and good offices; stabling for five, coach-house, etc. The pleasure grounds are of a very pretty character, and the kitchen garden is well stocked and very productive. The estate comprising more than one half grown woods and plantations affords exceptional facilities for rearing and preserving a heavy head of game. Golf Links on the estate and others in the immediate locality. Hunting and fishing.—Inspected and recommended by WALTON & LEE, Mount Street, W. (13,072.)

AN excellent landed investment. Gloucestershire, four miles from Tewkesbury, seven miles from Cheltenham.—To be SOLD, a valuable freehold estate of upwards of 400 acres, and noted as one of the best grazing farms in the county of Gloucester. It is let on lease, expiring Michaelmas 1905, and is free from tithe and land tax.—WALTON & LEE, Mount Street, London, W. (6122.)



THIS exceptionally picturesque old country HOUSE, in a beautiful part of the home counties, TO BE LET FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS at a moderate rent. It contains ample accommodation for a large family, is fully and artistically furnished, and stands in lovely grounds.—Full particulars of Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, London, W. (14,416.)

ROEHAMPTON (four minutes' walk from a station, and about a mile from the Thames; near Richmond Park, and 5½ miles from Hyde Park Corner).—To be LET, unfurnished, an unusually attractive old-fashioned RESIDENCE, standing in finely-timbered grounds, admirably disposed, and including tennis lawns, kitchen garden, with greenhouses and vinery, paddocks, &c.; about 12 acres in all. The property possesses in a wonderful degree the charms of a country residence, combined with the advantages of proximity to London; the residence is reached by a carriage drive through an avenue of chestnuts guarded by an entrance lodge, and contains handsome suite of reception rooms, billiard room, palmhouse, 15 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, &c.; good stabling for five horses, and rooms over; cowhouse for three, &c. The whole property is in a splendid state of repair, and the sanitary arrangements, recently re-laid, are believed to be perfect.—Highly recommended by the agents, Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, London, W. (14,355.)

GLOUCESTER (on the borders of Wilts).—Valuable Freehold RESIDENTIAL and SPORTING ESTATE of 1,723 acres for Sale, comprising an exceptionally interesting old Elizabethan Manor House, with extensive stabling, beautifully timbered but inexpensive grounds, productive gardens, glasshouses and park-like surroundings, occupying a very high situation in a notoriously healthy district, one-and-a-half miles from station, G.W.R., and good market town, and within two and a-half hours of London. The mansion possesses historical associations and contains a very fine oak paneled hall, large and lofty reception rooms, sixteen bedrooms, bathroom, and ample offices. The estate, of which a large proportion is grass land, and 44 acres coverts, is divided into four farms, with homesteads, buildings, and thirteen cottages. It affords very fair shooting, and is in one of the best hunting districts in England.—Full particulars, price, etc., of Mr. GEORGE PRIDE, Estate Agent, Tetbury, and of Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. (14,278.)

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
LAND AGENTS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London,

BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS, SURVEYORS & AUCTIONEERS,
69, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.,
And at Bromley and Beckenham, Kent.

By Order of the Exors. of the late LYNCH WHITE, Esq.
BICKLEY near to Chislehurst.—A very charming FREE-
HOLD PROPERTY embracing the commodious residence,
together with glasshouses, stabling, farmery and lodge, known
as "Homefield."



placed in lovely and yet inexpensive grounds of five acres, em-
bracing lawns, tennis court, shrubberies, kitchen garden,
paddocks and orchard, also an asphaltic winter tennis court.



To be sold by auction at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, E.C., on
Wednesday, July 27th, 1898, at 2 o'clock precisely by Messrs.
BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, printed particulars with views and
conditions obtainable on application.

ELTHAM, KENT.—Near golf links and within 40
minutes of TOWN. A CHARMING OLD-FASHIONED
COUNTRY RESIDENCE, IN TWELVE ACRES of well-
wooded grounds. The house is of very picturesque elevation,
approached by a carriage drive with pretty entrance lodge,
four reception rooms, conservatory, ten bedrooms and bath
room, stabling, man's rooms, glasshouses, etc.; tennis and other
lawns, excellent kitchen garden, orchard and meadows. Rent
£200. Freehold £5,000.—Inspected and recommended by
BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, as above. (14,563.)

SUSSEX, CRAWLEY.—An attractive COUNTRY
RESIDENCE, lying high, near station, standing in well-
wooded grounds of 17 ACRES. Three reception rooms,
conservatory, eleven bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, etc.
Stabling, glasshouses, orchard, and kitchen garden. The whole,
£4,200; or with seven acres, £3,500. Would be LET FURNISHED.
—Photos with BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, as above. Inspected
and recommended.

BERKS. ASCOT DISTRICT.—A very CHARMING
COUNTRY RESIDENCE, with stabling for four, and
exceptionally choice pleasure grounds, terraces, lawns and
meadows, about 11 ACRES in all. Three-quarters mile from
station, four miles from Ascot racecourse and golf links. High
ground, extensive views. Ten bed and dressing rooms, bath
room, three reception rooms, conservatory, servants' hall, etc.
Freehold £5,800. Rent £250. Might be had FURNISHED.—
BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, as above. Inspected and recom-
mended.



OXFORDSHIRE.—The above charmingly situated
MANOR HOUSE in well-timbered grounds of 15 ACRES.
South-west aspect. Large inner hall (would make good billiard
room) with gallery round; fourteen bed and dressing rooms,
bathroom, four good reception rooms. Twelve acres rich
pasture, fine orchard, charming pleasure grounds, tennis lawn,
pond, well-stocked kitchen garden. Good stabling and glass-
houses. Hunting with several packs. Within two hours from
London, mile-and-a-half from station, main line, G.W.R.
Freehold £4,000, or near offer. Would let furnished. Inspected
and recommended.—BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, as above.
(Photo)

SURREY.—About an hour from London, in an exceedingly
healthy and beautiful district. To be LET, Unfurnished,
a fine MODERN MANSION, approached by long shady
carriage drive, with lodge entrance, and standing in a
grand position facing south, surrounded by its own beautifully
timbered grounds and park-like meadows of about 12 ACRES.
Two miles from railway station. There are nineteen bed
and dressing rooms, bathroom, noble hall, and suite of well-
proportioned reception rooms, etc. Capital stabling, conserva-
tory, lovely grounds, orchard, and prolific kitchen garden. The
whole in splendid order. Rent £400.—Personally inspected
and recommended.

BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS, SURVEYORS & AUCTIONEERS,
69, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.,
And at Bromley and Beckenham, Kent.

ALEX. H. TURNER & CO.,
199, PICCADILLY, LONDON.
Branch Offices:
GUILDFORD, WEYBRIDGE, and READING.
Telephone 2753 (Gerrard).

TOWN AND COUNTRY HOUSES.

COUNTRY HOUSES AND ESTATES.—The most
extensive and carefully prepared list is issued by ALEX. H.
TURNER & CO., and for convenience it is divided into two parts,
No. 1 containing particulars of properties of over £250 rental or
£5,000 purchase money; No. 2 comprising details of smaller
properties. Revised edition now ready, post free six stamps.

**CHEAPEST COUNTRY HOUSE IN THE
MARKET THIS CENTURY.**—A Bargain Unprecedented
—West of England; three-and-a-half hours by four expresses to
and from London daily.—COUNTRY MANSION and 150 acres
park, beautifully placed, very fine central hall (with gallery open
to the roof) well proportioned and large reception and sitting
rooms about 18ft. high, excellent offices for servants. Situate
very high in an indescribably grand position, amidst a magnifi-
cently timbered park and woodlands, fruit and kitchen gardens,
orchard, stabling, cottages, and lodges; in fact, every accessory
requisite. Thoroughly in the country, yet within short drive of
station, giving access to several large provincial centres and the
metropolis. The whole was formed at an enormous cost, and
the house is decidedly unique, both as to the perfection of ar-
rangement and its general character. To be SOLD at but little
more than the value of the park and timber, and at about one-
tenth of the cost of the mansion. Famous Golf links close by;
yachting also, and 600 acres shooting. Plans, views, and full
details.—Personally inspected and strongly recommended by
ALEX. H. TURNER & CO., 199, Piccadilly, W.

NORTH WALES. Dolgelly district, most romantically
situate PROPERTY, about 500 acres, capital house, large
reception rooms, and billiard room, thirteen bed and dressing
rooms; ample stabling, lodges, cottages, etc. Price under
£13,000, including very extensive and valuable timber. Strongly
recommended.—Messrs. ALEX. H. TURNER & CO., 199,
Piccadilly, W.

ELIZABETHAN MANSION and about 120 acres,
with large lake, for SALE, a truly lovely place, within
forty minutes south-east of the Metropolis. The grounds are
indescribably beautiful. To anyone requiring a house with
about twenty-three bed and dressing rooms, six reception rooms,
billiard room, &c., this is an unique opportunity to purchase.—
Agents, Messrs. ALEX. H. TURNER & CO., 199, Piccadilly, W.

SINGULARLY beautiful PROPERTY, 250 acres, in
Sussex, with lake and trout stream; excellent residence;
about ten bed and dressing rooms.—Messrs. ALEX. H. TURNER
and Co., 199, Piccadilly, W. (U. 5789)

£5000. 65 ACRES (Freehold).—To be SOLD, choice
PROPERTY, with first-class medium-sized
residence; stabling, grounds, and well-timbered grass land;
ten bed and dressing rooms, and every convenience for a
family; gravel soil; strongly recommended. Messrs. ALEX. H.
TURNER & CO., 199, Piccadilly, W.

£8000. 24 Acres, or might be LET.—First-class
RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY; thirteen
bed and dressing rooms, billiard room, and excellent reception
rooms; stabling for five; gravel and sandy soil; Bagshot
district; 250ft. above sea level; south aspect.—Recommended
by Messrs. ALEX. H. TURNER & CO., 199, Piccadilly, W.
(G. 1151.)

£7000.—EIGHTEEN ACRES delightful FREE-
HOLD PROPERTY; very picturesque house
(cottage style); lovely views of the Wey and the Hindhead,
sandy soil; nine bed and dressing rooms, large reception rooms,
good offices; first-class stable. Charming small place for
a gentleman of means.—Messrs. ALEX. H. TURNER & CO., 199,
Piccadilly, W.

INGATESTONE (near).—For SALE, an exceptionally
choice and compact FREEHOLD PROPERTY, in a most
beautiful and bracing position on the top of a hill, and com-
manding extensive views. The residence is on two floors, and
most picturesque, with verandah, and partly covered with
creepers; conservatory entrance, large hall with fireplace, four
spacious reception rooms, eleven bed and dressing rooms, bath;
exquisite old timbered and shady grounds, and grass land, in all
about eleven acres; ample stabling, cottages and glass, the
whole forming a most convenient and compact residential
property, having modern drainage, gravel soil; close to R.C.,
and other churches, golf and hunting, and express train service
to London. Price £3,300.—Inspected and photo, Messrs. ALEX.
H. TURNER & CO., 199, Piccadilly, W.

UNDER Twenty Miles from London, with grand old lawn
sloping to a charming river, affording boating for some
miles and fishing.—Messrs. ALEX. H. TURNER & CO. can OFFER
for SALE, by strictly Private Treaty, a particularly delightful
old-fashioned FREEHOLD FAMILY RESIDENCE. Perfectly
rural and secluded in the midst of beautiful country, at the
same time near to every convenience, and most accessible to
London. It has lofty reception rooms, billiard room, large
conservatory, about fifteen bed and dressing rooms, all told,
some of which are not large, fitted bathrooms, gas laid on,
extensive dry cellars, capital stabling, glasshouses, farmery,
lodge, cottage, boat-house, and particularly fine old gardens,
grounds, and park-land; the timber throughout is almost
matchless. The total area is about 50 acres, and the property is
upon deep gravel soil and thoroughly dry, and throughout in
faultless condition. About £15,000 would be accepted. May
be seen by special appointment with the Agents, who can
recommend the place from thorough knowledge as being
exceptionally choice in every respect.—Offices, 199, Piccadilly,
London.

SURREY (in a beautiful district, about one-and-a-half
hours from town).—To be LET, FURNISHED or UNFURNISHED,
for a term, or for SALE, Freehold, a particularly charming
ESTATE of about 100 acres, with a most picturesque char-
ming Mansion in well-timbered old grounds and park-land; spacious
lofty reception rooms, twenty bed and dressing rooms, extensive
first-class stabling, etc.; amidst good society, and on dry soil,
south aspect, high ground.—Messrs. ALEX. H. TURNER & CO.,
199, Piccadilly, have inspected this property, and can recommend
it to any gentleman requiring a commodious family residence
without a large quantity of land. Offices, 199, Piccadilly,
London, S.W.

BETWEEN Tunbridge Wells and Eastbourne.—Notori-
ously healthy, high, in the midst of most picturesque
scenery.—Choice small SPORTING and RESIDENTIAL
ESTATE for SALE, with medium-sized residence and 250
acres park-like pasture, arable, and meadow land; trout stream,
lake. The house was erected regardless of cost, and is most
replete with every convenience; stabling, farmery, matured
gardens, orchard, &c. First-rate fishing, excellent shooting.—
Price and full particulars of ALEX. H. TURNER & CO.,
199, Piccadilly, London, W.

ALEX. H. TURNER & CO.,
199, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.

WM. R. NICHOLAS & CO.,
60, PALL MALL, S.W.,
AND BLAGRAVE STREET, READING.



HANTS.—In the Vine Hunt, and within easy drive of
Basingstoke.—For SALE, Freehold, a charming old-
fashioned ESTATE of 56 acres (another 60 acres if desired).
The house stands on high ground, was modernised some time
since, and contains twelve bed and dressing rooms, bathroom,
three reception rooms, &c. Stabling for five horses, ample
buildings, charming gardens, twelve acres of wood, and
remainder of land, well-timbered pasture.



ESSEX AND SUFFOLK BORDERS.—Rent £200 per
annum. Unfurnished. A delightful RESIDENTIAL
PROPERTY of 30 acres in first-class hunting centre. Ten
bedrooms, four reception rooms, and handsome billiard room.—
Apply: NICHOLAS, as above.



BERKS. Forty-five minutes of town.—The above delightful
RESIDENTIAL ESTATE, comprising some 57 acres,
will be SOLD by auction the end of July, known as "White
Knights," Earley, Berks. It includes a charming FAMILY
RESIDENCE, with 22 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, four
reception rooms, billiard room, stabling and cottages; charming
gardens and park land, which slope down to a very large lake,
affording good boating and fishing. The whole held on lease
having 61 years unexpired at a moderate ground rent. Within
one-and-a-half miles of Earley station, and about two of the
important town of Reading, whence London is reached in 45
minutes.—Illustrated particulars and conditions of sale of
Messrs. THOROLD & BRODIE, 4, Regent Street, London, S.W.,
and of WM. R. NICHOLAS & CO., 60, Pall Mall, and Blagrove
Street, Reading.

BY ORDER OF MORTGAGEES.—A splendid landed
Estate in GLOUCESTERSHIRE, with magnificent
Castle, park, numerous farms, inns, cottages and other
property, in all 2,500 acres, situation finest in England, sporting
first-class. Inspected by the agents.—WM. R. NICHOLAS & CO.,
60, Pall Mall, S.W., and Reading.

TROUT FISHING, three miles, Kent.—For SALE, a
beautiful old-fashioned ESTATE of sixteen acres (nine
acres Freehold, and seven Leasehold), intersected by strictly
preserved trout stream, and rights of fishing for three miles.
Ten bedrooms, three handsome reception rooms. Billiard
room. Stabling and cottages.—Photos and particulars of
NICHOLAS, as above.

£6,000 ONLY, COST £20,000.—Bucks, under
deed, half an hour of town. For SALE at this
ridiculous price, a beautiful home of nine-and-a-quarter acres.
Thirteen bedrooms, bathroom, suite of handsome reception
rooms, and billiard room. This is a great bargain. It is
situated in a good social and sporting district, and from its
convenient position would suit a London man.

ON THE SOLENT.—For SALE one of the most
beautiful small Estates on the South Coast, commanding
extensive views of the Solent and Isle of Wight. It covers an
area of nearly 200 acres, and includes a noble FAMILY
MANSION, with some 22 bedrooms, and usual reception and
other rooms.—Inspected by WM. R. NICHOLAS & CO., of whom
particulars and photos may be obtained.

FOUR PER CENT LANDED INVESTMENT.
BANBURY.—Some of the best hunting in England.
For SALE, a small tithe free-landed estate to pay four per cent.
net. Just on 1,000 acres, all rich old pasture, and let to old stand-
ing tenants. Small FAMILY RESIDENCE with 15 or 16 bed-
rooms.—Full particulars of NICHOLAS & CO., 60, Pall Mall, and
Reading.

WM. R. NICHOLAS & CO.,
60, PALL MALL, S.W.,
AND BLAGRAVE STREET, READING.

HAMILTON, MENZIES & CO., LAND AND ESTATE AGENTS, 36, VICTORIA STREET, S.W.

AYRSHIRE.—2,700 Acres SHOOTING, with Furnished CASTLE, to be LET. The castle is beautifully situated on the banks of a river, and stands in extensive and finely wooded grounds, with most picturesque walks, and contains five public rooms, six double bedrooms, five single bedrooms, four dressing rooms, seven servants' bedrooms, bathroom, etc., and the usual offices. Hot and cold water laid on throughout, and the drainage is perfect. Stabling consists of eight stalls, two loose boxes (two single and one double), coach-houses, kennels, gardener's and keeper's houses, etc. Two gardens, peach house, extensive hot-houses, vineries and conservatories; excellent kitchen garden. The shootings, extending over 2,700 acres, comprise grouse, black game, partridges, pheasants, hares, rabbits, etc. Salmon and trout fishing in river and loch. Railway station five miles.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1001.)



FIFESHIRE.—4,000 Acres of SHOOTING to be LET, with Furnished RESIDENCE. Railway station one mile, five miles from Alloa, can be reached from Edinburgh and Glasgow in a little over an hour. The house, which occupies a situation of great beauty, overlooking finely-timbered parks, contains entrance hall, seven reception rooms, billiard room, fourteen bedrooms, large number of servants' bedrooms, and the usual domestic offices. The house is approached by three avenues, with lodges at entrances. Drainage new, and good water supply. The policies are very extensive and singularly beautiful, adorned with wood, through which there are many miles of laid-out driving roads and rides. The terraced lawn commands a splendid view of the Firth of Forth. The gardens add greatly to the residential amenities of the place and are exquisitely laid out. Large and profitable fruit and vegetable gardens. Extensive stabling accommodation, coachman's house, groom's rooms, etc. The shooting extends over 4,000 acres (including about 1,600 acres of wood), and yields excellent and diversified sport; it comprises Japanese, Fallow, and Roe Deer, and all kinds of low ground game. Fishing in two large lochs stocked with Loch Leven and ordinary brown trout. The small Grouse Moor is also to be let with the Residence.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1015.)

STIRLINGSHIRE.—2,500 Acres SHOOTING and Furnished MANSON to be LET. The house is beautifully situated in well-wooded park, with extensive pleasure grounds, fine gardens and loch, and contains four public rooms, billiard room, twelve bedrooms, and nine servants' bedrooms, bathroom, etc., and usual offices. Drainage and water supply perfect. Large stables with coachman's and gardener's houses, entrance lodge, etc.; conservatories and good garden. The shooting affords good sport and extends to 2,500 acres, there being a large extent of fine wood. Two railway stations within one and two miles respectively, and about forty minutes from Glasgow.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1013.)

KINCARDINESHIRE.—To be LET Furnished, for the summer months, charming MANOR HOUSE standing in its own grounds of 3 or 4 acres, and approached by a drive a mile long, sheltered with fine old trees and ornamental shrubs. The house, which has been recently re-decorated, contains entrance hall (entered by a verandah), drawing room, with bay windows and French windows opening out on lawn, morning room, dining room with bay windows, thirteen bedrooms, billiard and smoking rooms, and ample domestic offices, coachman's house and stabling accommodation for four horses, coach-house, etc. Good shooting over 600 acres, and good trout and sea fishing. Well stocked kitchen garden, lawns and ornamental flower beds. Church and telegraph office only one mile distant, and one-and-a-half miles of railway station, and within seven miles of Aberdeen.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1019.)

ROSS AND CROMARTY.—16,000 to 17,000 Acres DEER FOREST, with furnished LODGE to be LET on LEASE. The lodge contains dining room, drawing room, two double, two single and one small bedroom, two dressing rooms, together with servants' rooms and complete domestic offices. Iron house containing six bedrooms, gun room, five stall stabling, etc., also smaller iron house with two bedrooms. The shooting, which extends to between 16,000 and 17,000 acres, is one of the finest in Scotland, and consists of deer, grouse, black game, partridge, etc. The forest is fully stocked. There is a little salmon fishing in the Blackwater lake in the season, and good trout fishing on two lochs and numerous burns, and two lochs quite adjacent. Good garden. Railway station six miles, and post and telegraph office, same distance from lodge.—For particulars of bag and all other information apply to HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1008.)

SPLENDID GROUSE MOOR.

ABERDEENSHIRE.—10,000 Acres SHOOTING and FISHING with furnished house to be LET. The house contains dining room, drawing room, billiard room, thirteen bedrooms, and the usual offices. The shooting extends to 10,000 acres, and the average bag of grouse is about 1,500 brace, and black game, and fair amount of partridges, a few Roedeer; good salmon and trout fishing over 5½ miles of river.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1018.)

ROSS-SHIRE.—GROUSE MOOR 6,000 acres with furnished LODGE to LET. The house contains two reception rooms, nine bed and dressing rooms, bathroom (h. and c.), with the usual domestic offices; stabling three stalls, coach-house, harness room, etc. Shooting extends over 6,000 acres, and consists of grouse, black game, woodcock, rabbit, and occasional deer. The moor was not shot over last year and good shooting should be had this season. Trout fishing on loch and river Blackwater. Excellent kennels. Railway station and post and telegraph offices three miles.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1021.)

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PERTHSHIRE.—1,750 Acres SHOOTING (of which 540 acres are plantation) and Furnished RESIDENCE to be LET.—The Residence is pleasantly situated on the south bank of the river Almond, and contains three reception rooms, nine principal bed and three dressing rooms, bathroom, and usual domestic offices. Stabling: Four-stalled stable with loose box, large coach-house, coachman's room, harness room, etc. Well-stocked garden. Shooting over 1,750 acres, of which 540 acres are plantations. Trout fishing in the river Almond.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1007.)

SUTHERLAND.—To LET for Season or on Lease **16,000 ACRES** Shooting, with Furnished Lodge, beautifully and most conveniently situated. The Lodge contains two reception rooms, five bedrooms, three servants' bedrooms and usual offices, excellent stable, coach-house, kennels, etc., kitchen garden; railway station five miles distant. Last years bag consisted of 300 brace grouse, 12 brace black game, etc., three stags. Good trout fishing.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1002.)

HADDINGTONSHIRE.—3,000 ACRES SHOOTING (low ground), and FURNISHED RESIDENCE, containing ten public rooms, ten bedrooms, two dressing rooms, servants' bedrooms, servants' hall, house-keeper's room, and the usual offices, to be LET, with shooting over 3,000 acres, 400 acres coverts. The surroundings of the house are very agreeable, and a trout stream winds through part of the grounds. Railway station about three miles distant, and within eighteen miles of Edinburgh. The shooting would be let separately if desired.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1025.)

ABERDEENSHIRE.—1,300 ACRES SHOOTING (Mixed), and FURNISHED RESIDENCE, containing drawing room, dining room, smoking room, seven bedrooms (two with dressing rooms), bathroom, three servants' rooms, and the usual offices. Tenant will have use of coach-house, with accommodation for coachman, and four-stalled stable, also one horse and dogcart, tenant paying keep of horse. Productive garden, and ash tennis court. Good drainage. To be LET, with shooting over 1,300 acres (1,000 wood, and the remainder arable), yielding the usual low country game, as well as black game, roedeer, and capercaillie, etc. Railway station three miles, and telegraph office one mile.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1026.)

WORCESTER (Near)—To be LET, for the Hunting Season, a comfortable FURNISHED HOUSE, newly done up, and containing four reception rooms, twelve bedrooms, bathroom hot and cold water throughout, usual offices; excellent stables, five stalls and five loose boxes, harness room, etc., with two rooms over coachman's cottage if necessary. Hunting with the Worcestershire, Ledbury, and Croome Fox Hounds.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1028.)

DONCASTER RACES (within half-hour by rail).—To be LET for the race week, or two weeks, a RESIDENCE, standing in finely-timbered park, replete with every comfort and delightful flower garden. Contains seven reception rooms, 23 bedrooms, and usual offices. Stabling for 15 horses. Close to station. Numerous specials to the races. Suitable for a large party.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1024.)

ISLE OF WIGHT.—For SALE, peculiarly attractive Marine RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, comprising about fourteen acres, with MANSON, occupying a beautiful position, in magnificently timbered grounds sloping to the shores of the Solent. The Mansion, which is approached by a winding carriage drive, shaded by a fine avenue of trees, with picturesque lodge entrance, contains entrance hall, five public rooms, ten principal bed and dressing rooms, three secondary bedrooms, two bathrooms (h. and c.), observatory and smoking room, conservatory, etc., and complete and well equipped domestic offices. The stable department is placed at a convenient distance and well screened from the house, and consists of a stable of two loose boxes, and three stalls, saddle and harness room, spacious coach-house, and a second carriage house and coachman's cottage containing four rooms, small farmery a short distance away enclosed by a stone wall and comprising two poultry houses, four piggeries, and cow-house for three. Large and well stocked kitchen and flower gardens. The pleasure grounds are of the most varied and delightful character, thickly timbered and shrubbed, and laid out with great taste and skill. Bordered by a running stream, and intersected by numberless winding paths of a very romantic character. Tennis lawn, &c., splendid anchorage for a yacht opposite to the house.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1009.)

COUNTY MONAGHAN.—To be LET or SOLD, with immediate possession, a fine old MANSON standing in an ornamental and well-wooded demesne (formerly the property and residence of Sir George Forster, Bart., M.P., afterwards Sir Oriel Forster, Bart., and latterly Sir Robert Forster, Bart.). The house is beautifully situated, affording splendid views of landscape and wooded scenery, with lake in front of house. The offices, stabling, etc., are commodious, in thoroughly good order, and well kept up to date, and the place has all the requirements necessary for a gentleman's residence, and ready for immediate occupation. The demesne contains about 205 acres, one half being fairly agricultural or pasture land, the remainder being in the hands of tenants. The Mansion is situated about five miles from Ardee Railway Station, on the Great Northern Railway, and about the same distance from Carrickmacross, where there is also a railway terminus on the same line. There is good shooting on the place, and the Louth and Meath Hounds are within easy distance on both sides, the meets being occasionally at the place. The lands are all in pasture. To be Sold on reasonable terms.—For further particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1027.)

HEREFORDSHIRE.—To be LET for Two years (or by arrangement) FURNISHED RESIDENCE, containing four public rooms, 12 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, and usual offices; stabling, two loose boxes, three stalls, gardener's cottage, two orchards, besides gardens, 50 acres extra land may be had if desired. Hunting with the Ludlow and North Herefordshire Hounds. The property is finely situated and commands very pretty views.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1016.)

SURREY.—For SALE desirable RESIDENCE, standing high amongst pines and heather, and beautiful views, containing three public rooms (including triple drawing room 35ft. long) nine bedrooms, billiard room, bathroom (h. and c.), and complete domestic offices. Grounds extending to about 20 acres, part wood and ornamental water. Large kitchen garden and flower gardens, two tennis lawns, conservatory, vinery, fernery, greenhouse, etc. Stabling for six horses. Three-quarters-of-a-mile from station and within four miles of Ascot racecourse.—For further particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1022.)

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GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—To be LET, furnished for the hunting season or a term of years, stately MANSON in large park, and with 3,000 acres of shooting. The residence contains noble front hall and inner hall with grand staircase and gallery, drawing-room with large semicircular bay, breakfast room, dining room, vestibule opening on to terrace, morning room, billiard room; all the reception rooms are handsomely fitted and the decorations are of a high order. Bedroom accommodation consists of sixteen principal bed and dressing rooms and twenty-four secondary apartments. Complete and well equipped domestic offices. The water supply is from reservoir on hill worked by hydraulic ram, and the sanitary arrangements are perfect and of the most modern description. Stabling, ten stalls and eleven boxes with excellent saddle and harness rooms, six coachmen's rooms, etc., etc. The grounds are singularly beautiful and picturesque, including rose garden, flower garden, extensive shrubberies and walks, two ornamental lakes with waterfalls, boat-house and boats, and a fine walled and stocked kitchen garden, the whole comprising about fifteen acres. Shooting over the estate of about 3,000 acres (about 300 acres covert) and two good rookeries. Capital trout and perch fishing in the lakes. The property is in the Duke of Beaufort's country, and hunting with the Badminton hounds is easily obtainable six days a week, within range of fifteen miles, and the Berkeley hounds are also within easy reach. Railway station four-and-a-half miles.—Further particulars may be obtained from HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1003.)



KENT.—To be LET, Unfurnished, a very picturesque old MANOR HOUSE (in Elizabethan style) between Tunbridge Wells and Ashford, fitted throughout with polished oak floors and panelled walls, standing in charming pleasure grounds, and commanding splendid views. The house contains dining, drawing, breakfast and morning rooms, study, billiard room, ten bedrooms, large ball-room, 53ft. by 20ft., and complete domestic offices, outbuildings include stabling (five stalls, harness rooms and two coach-houses), cow-house, lodge, etc. Good kitchen garden and orchard, tennis (two courts) and croquet lawns, shrubberies, etc. (total extent four acres), church, post and telegraph office within one mile. Soil rich loam. Rates and taxes moderate.—For further particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1004.)

CORK.—To be LET or for SALE, handsome FREEHOLD COUNTRY RESIDENCE with 45 acres (35 acres pasture and 11 acres tillage and gardens). The house contains four reception rooms, billiard room (with table), six bedrooms, four servants' bedrooms, complete and domestic offices. Sanitary arrangements perfect, bathroom (h. and c.). It stands in the centre of the grounds, on a beautiful slope, overlooking exquisite river scenery, and is in the centre of a sporting county. Stabling for 12 horses, and there are about 400ft. of glass in the garden. Kitchen garden of about two acres. Hunting with three packs of hounds in the neighbourhood, and shooting and fishing can be obtained in the district. Within two miles of Post and Telegraph Office, and within one mile of railway station.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1012.)

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL.—To be LET, HANDSOME RESIDENCE, containing entrance hall, three reception rooms, smoking room, ten bed and dressing rooms, bathroom (h. and c.), and ample domestic offices. The house is approached by a flight of steps under a portico, and there is a well-shrubbed forecourt in front. The gardens are of a very agreeable character, well-matured with a profusion of well-grown evergreens, etc., they slope gently towards the south-east and are laid out in lawns, with grand walks, flower beds, etc.; railway, 3 minutes walk.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1023.)

EASTBOURNE.—Furnished RESIDENCE to LET, from May to September. Three reception rooms, six bedrooms, two dressing rooms bathroom and usual offices. Conservatory opening into drawing room. Garden and tennis lawn. Within five minutes walk of Parade and golf links. Full particulars from HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1011.)

CORNWALL.—For SALE charmingly situated FREEHOLD RESIDENCE, containing three reception rooms, eight bedrooms, bathroom, and usual offices; electricity throughout; furniture and fixtures would be sold; sanitary arrangements perfect; stabling, one stall, one loose box, coach-house, and harness room; good kitchen and flower gardens. The house stands at an elevation of 150 feet above sea level, and overlooks a lovely bay, and there are extensive views of prettily wooded valleys between Fowey and Falmouth. Good anchorage for yacht.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1014.)

ISLE OF WIGHT.—WEST COWES.—For SALE, or to be LET, Freehold RESIDENCE, with five acres grounds. The house contains three reception rooms, four bedrooms, bath room (h. and c.), conservatory and vinery opening from drawing room, and usual offices. Stabling, one stall and one loose box, coach-house. Lodge at principal entrance, containing sitting room, kitchen, scullery, and three bedrooms; farm buildings, etc.; close to church and post office.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1017.)

£1000.

WANTED TO PURCHASE or RENT.—RESIDENCE containing three reception rooms, eight bedrooms, billiard room, bath room (h. and c.), and usual offices. Stabling, one loose box and one stall; coach-house and five acres of grass. On S.W. Railway, within half-an-hour of town and about one-and-a-half miles from station. Price £1000, or £100 a year. Full particulars to HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1020.)

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MESSRS. CHAMPION & BUSBY have large and carefully compiled **REGISTERS OF COUNTRY HOUSES AND ESTATES** to LET and for SALE, and of Country, Riverside, and Seaside Houses to LET, Furnished. A suitable selection will be forwarded on receipt of applicants' requirements.

KENT.—To be SOLD, in a delightful district, a well-built and beautifully arranged **FAMILY RESIDENCE**, standing in grounds of four-and-a-half acres. There are three handsome reception rooms, nine bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, and spacious domestic offices. The outbuildings, which are commodious and in good condition, comprise two elevation loose boxes and coach-house, gardener's cottage of three rooms, with large store-rooms over, and other buildings. The grounds comprise fruit and pleasure gardens, tennis lawn, etc. A good water supply from the Kent Water Company. The property is cheap at £1,200, and if desired £2,000 could remain on mortgage. (C.U. 6023.)

NORFOLK (Ditchingham).—For SALE, a delightfully-situated **RESIDENCE** and grounds in this remarkably good residential district, commanding lovely views of surrounding country. The house is substantially built of white brick, and contains three fine reception rooms, and seven bedrooms, and spacious domestic offices. Bathroom. The stabling comprises a two-stall stable, with two carriage houses, etc. Small farmery, consisting of stable, hay and wood-houses, cow-house, etc., etc. Capital dairy and scouring house attached. The garden and grounds are adorned with handsome trees, conifers, and extensive shrubberies, with winding walks, lawns, orchards, and walled kitchen garden. An ornamental domed conservatory, 38ft. by 19ft., adjoins the house. Splendid vineery. In all about twelve acres. At the very low price, freehold, of £2,250, including timber and fixtures. (Fol. 6082.)

SURREY (in the lovely neighbourhood of Weybridge).—To be SOLD, Freehold, a very attractive **RESIDENCE** in a charming position, three-quarters-of-a-mile from Weybridge station. It comprises on ground floor three reception rooms; on first floor library, three bedrooms, dressing room, and bath-room; on second floor four bedrooms, etc. There is a nice garden. Sanitation perfect, and good water supply. Gas laid on. Excellent golf links at Walton (two miles distance).—Price freehold £1,100. (Fol. 6062.)

SURREY (West Molesey).—To be LET, Unfurnished, a well-built modern **RESIDENCE** standing in grounds of seven acres, and approached by a winding carriage drive. There is a large entrance hall, with three good reception rooms on ground floor, and above are six principal bedrooms, with bathroom, linen cupboard, lavatory, etc. Back staircase leading to servants' bedrooms, with accommodation for six. The grounds comprise a well laid out flower and kitchen gardens, greenhouses, rosary, etc. Stabling for six horses, large coach-house, and men's rooms over. Cottage of five rooms, two paddocks, model dairy, etc. Company's water and gas laid on. Rent on lease £250 per annum. (Fol. 6077.)

HANTS (in the very charming district of Bishops Waltham).—The freehold of a very desirable and well-built **RESIDENCE** to be SOLD. The accommodation consists of four reception rooms, and six good bedrooms, with two smaller ones. Stabling for two horses, two coach-houses, with men's rooms over. Large garden well stocked with various fruit trees. Cowhouses, etc. Price freehold £2,600. (Fol. 6094.)

ISLE OF WIGHT.—To be SOLD, a particularly charming marine **RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY**, comprising about fourteen acres of beautifully-timbered grounds sloping to the Solent, and forming a highly attractive yachting residence, there being excellent anchorage for a yacht opposite the mansion, with a creek adjacent, affording facility for laying up vessel during winter months. The mansion, which is approached by a carriage drive, shaded by a fine avenue of trees, at the entrance to which stands a picturesque lodge, comprises five reception rooms, billiard and cloak rooms, with ten principal bedrooms, three secondary ditto, and four capital servants' apartments. In the two towers are observatory and smoking room. Excellent stabling for five horses, coach-houses, etc., and coachman's cottage. Small farmery. Most delightful and varied pleasure grounds and gardens not to be surpassed on the island. Lease of 999 years unexpired at a ground rent of £120 per annum, to be sold for the low price of £3,500. (Fol. 6048.)

SUSSEX (Hove, Brighton).—To be SOLD, Freehold, a substantially built and well-arranged **FAMILY RESIDENCE** in a good position, close to the sea and promenade. The accommodation consists of four handsome reception rooms, seven bedrooms, with spacious domestic offices, etc. fitted with every convenience. Good garden.—Price freehold £1,450. (Fol. 6035.)

BUCKS (Burnham Beeches).—To be SOLD, the freehold of a pretty and conveniently arranged bungalow **RESIDENCE**, delightfully situated and approached by a carriage drive. The house contains three reception rooms, six bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), and usual servants' offices. The grounds, of about two acres, comprise large fruit and kitchen gardens, with nice flower garden. Two-stall stable, coach-house, man's rooms, etc.—Price freehold £1,800. (Fol. 6095.)

WANTED to Purchase a **MANORIAL** and **SPORTING ESTATE** consisting of about 500 acres, situate in fine country.—Particulars and price to Messrs. CHAMPION & BUSBY, as above.

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ISLE OF WIGHT.—A fine old **MANSION**, standing in a park of 67 acres, four reception, nine bedrooms, good stabling, flower, fruit and kitchen gardens, to be Let Furnished, Rent twelve guineas per week. Photo.

MAIDENHEAD COURT.—On banks of Thames with private landing stage and pretty gardens of two acres. Three reception, six bedrooms, bathroom, etc. To be Let Furnished. 25 guineas per week. Photo.

HENLEY-ON-THAMES. Three reception, seven bedrooms, bathroom. Rent 14 guineas per week. Photo.

TONBRIDGE.—Four reception, eleven bedrooms, stabling. To be let furnished. Twelve guineas per week. Photo.

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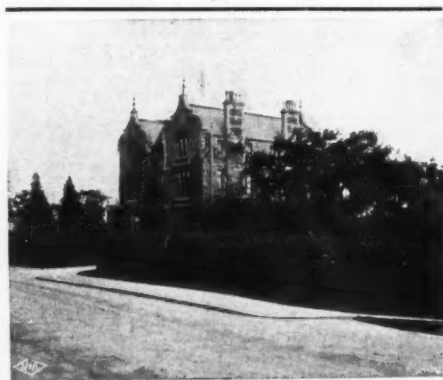
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HEREFORDSHIRE.—On the Welsh borders of.—**CLYRO COURT**, a charming **MANSION** on the banks of the Wye, twenty miles by rail from Hereford, to be LET, furnished, for a term, containing four reception rooms, billiard room, twenty-nine bedrooms and dressing rooms, salmon fishing on one-and-a-half miles of the Wye, and about 5,000 acres of shooting, average bag last three years 1,721 pheasants, 451 partridges, and 172 hares; good garden and conservatories, stabling for 12; a very fine Elizabethan house with splendid views of the Black Mountains, and standing high and well away from the river.—Further particulars from P. LLOYD, Estate Office, Glasbury R.S.O.



BRECON, SOUTH WALES.—On the banks of the river Usk, to be LET, furnished, for a term, "DINAS HOUSE," containing ten bed and dressing rooms, exclusive of servants'. Water and drainage excellent. Stabling for six, good garden, and inexpensive grounds; also about two miles of salmon and trout fishing in the Usk, and sporting over about 2,000 acres. One mile from Brecon by private road.—Apply to P. LLOYD, Estate Office, Glasbury, R.S.O.



LEIGH WOODS, CLIFTON.—Within a few minutes walk of Clifton College, the club, Grand Spa, and railway stations. To be SOLD an attractive **DETACHED RESIDENCE**, standing high, and commanding magnificent views over a broad expanse of country. The gardens are in excellent order, and are about two acres in extent. The stabling is a convenient distance from the house, and comprises two stalls, two loose boxes, coach-house, and harness room, with dwelling rooms over. The house is a substantial structure, and finished in good taste. It comprises vestibule, entrance hall, 34ft. by 11ft. 6in., drawing room, 27ft. by 17ft., and large bay dining room, 24ft. by 17ft., and bay morning room, 17ft. by 14ft. 3in., and bay study, ten bedrooms, servants' hall and excellent offices, lavatories on three floors. Greenhouse and orchid house.—For further particulars apply

Messrs. HUGHES & SON,
ESTATE AND HOUSE AGENTS
38, College Green, BRISTOL.

CHESHIRE.—To be LET, "The Oaklands," Preston Brook. The house contains entrance hall, three entertaining rooms, billiard room and smoking room, eight bedrooms, bath-room, &c.; three servants' bedrooms and workroom, and the usual offices. Hot and cold water laid on throughout. Adjoining the house is conservatory. The grounds are laid out with lawns and shrubberies, and contain tennis ground for two courts, and croquet lawn. There is a good walled kitchen garden, with greenhouse and frames. The outbuilding consists of stabling for eleven horses, coach-house, harness and cleaning rooms, bedrooms for stablemen, shippons, pigeries, &c. There are also gardener's cottage (entrance lodge), coachman's house and two good cottages. The whole of the premises are in perfect repair. The water supply is from a well, to which is fitted a hot-air pumping engine. The drainage is on the best and most approved system. The house is situated five miles from Warrington, two miles from Moore, Daresbury, and Sutton Weaver stations, and one mile from Preston Brook station. The Cheshire Hounds (North pack) frequently meet within riding distance. The house is to be let either partially furnished or unfurnished, and eighteen acres of grass land can be taken if desired.—For further particulars and orders to view apply to JOHN WHITE, MACIVER & Co., Estate Offices, Warrington.



FOR SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.

THE LYTHERILL ESTATE, Haslemere, Surrey, in one of the most picturesque parts of the county, and within very easy distance of London, being almost close to Haslemere station on the South-Western Railway (direct Portsmouth line). The estate includes an important **COUNTRY MANSION** of fine architectural elevation, in the centre of most attractive pleasure grounds, and commanding grand views extending over a vast expanse of very richly-wooded country, including, in fact, much of the magnificent scenery for which this lovely district is celebrated. The mansion is now in the occupation of Julius Wernher, Esq., whose tenancy terminates on the 1st August next. It is approached by a long drive, with ornamental entrance lodge, and contains on the upper floor, twelve bedrooms, day nursery, bathroom, linen room, work room, and maid's sitting room; on the first floor, fourteen bedrooms, four dressing rooms, night nursery, two bathrooms, and two boudoirs; on the ground floor, vestibule, handsome inner hall and corridor, gentleman's room, billiard room, drawing room, communicating by massive folding doors with second drawing room, library, dining room, and study (the reception rooms are all of fine proportions, and are finished, fitted, and decorated in a most costly and artistic manner), two staircases, complete domestic offices, five men-servants' bedrooms, men's bath room, strong rooms, and extensive cellarage, detached gun room, game larder, six additional servants' bedrooms, and coal houses. The appendages of the mansion are all that can be desired with a country seat, including capital stabling for eleven horses, with coach-houses, saddle and harness rooms, groom's rooms, and coachman's house, large well-stocked fruit and vegetable gardens, with an extensive series of glasshouses, gardeners', keepers', and workmen's cottages, etc., the whole standing in the midst of the noble estate of about 1,500 ACRES and in an area including almost every variety of landscape, hills, dales, and ornamental waters, the hills being for the most part crowned with old-established woods. There are ample farmhouses and homesteads. The game upon the estate has been well preserved, and affords very fine shooting. Several packs of hounds are within reach. The subsoil is chiefly of sand and gravel; water is readily obtainable, and much of the land has an altitude of from 400 feet to upwards of 600 feet above sea level.—Further particulars may be obtained of Messrs. WADE & WADE, Solicitors, 4, St. Helen's Place, E.C.; and (with cards to view) of Messrs. DEBENHAM, TEWSON, FARMER, & BRIDGEWATER, Land Agents and Auctioneers, 80, Cheapside, E.C.



TO LET at once, Furnished or Unfurnished.—The above pretty old **HOUSE**, in a village, twelve miles from London. Three reception, ten bed and dressing rooms, good offices, gas and water, walled garden, and tennis lawn.—Apply to LADY DAVIES, Carshalton.

NORTH DEVON.—**WESTWARD HO!** and Bideford. Educational advantages unequalled. Royal North Devon Golf Links; Fishing, deer, fox and other hunting. House list free. Apply BRADICK & SONS, Auctioneers and House Agents, Bideford. Established 1857.

WANTED in September, Furnished or Unfurnished, a small **HOUSE**, containing three or four reception rooms, nine to ten bedrooms, gardens, lawns, and some grass land. Some shooting and fishing. Must be near a Roman Catholic Church. Home counties preferred. Rent about £250.—Address by letter, A. M. V., c/o Day's Library, Mount St., London, W.

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HOUSE & ESTATE AGENT, AUCTIONEER & VALUER,
69, SANDGATE ROAD,

Who has had upwards of 25 years practical experience with all classes of House Property in Folkestone.

Telegrams:—"NEWPORT, FOLKESTONE."

CHESHIRE.—To be LET, furnished, convenient hunting box in centre of hunting country, for eight months from October, containing three reception rooms, nine bedrooms, bathroom, hot and cold water, and usual offices. Good stabling for seven horses, coach-house, and two groom's rooms. Close to post, telegraph, and church. Station two miles. For particulars apply to X, c/o Postmaster, Tarporley, Cheshire.

COUNTRY LIFE

THE JOURNAL FOR ALL INTERESTED IN
COUNTRY LIFE AND COUNTRY PURSUITS.

ILLUSTRATED.

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MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
LAND AGENTS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.



£4,000 will buy a pretty little FREEHOLD, and about 50 acres of grassland. The property is title free, and is situate about one-and-three-quarter hours from London, and comprises a nine bed-roomed house, very prettily situate on high ground, with splendid view therefrom. Nice walled garden, orchard, two convenient paddocks adjoining; stabling and coach-house, lodge entrance, useful farm buildings, in convenient inclosures.—Full particulars, plan, and view of Messrs. WALTON & LEE (who have personally inspected the property), 10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W. (14,547.)

ISLE OF MAN (near Ballaugh Glen).—To be LET, with immediate possession, a very desirable RESIDENCE, situated in the centre of this charming and romantic district, and within a mile of the railway station. The house stands in 5 acres of grounds, and contains four reception rooms, ten bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, and excellent servants' offices; coach-house, harness rooms; stabling for eight horses, and useful out-buildings.—Full particulars of Messrs. WALTON & LEE (who have personally inspected same), 10, Mount Street, W. Photos. (13,715.)

STAG AND FOX HUNTING. Trout Fishing, Shooting, Golfing, and Yachting.—West Somerset, close to the coast, two miles from a market town, and three from a station. To be LET, Unfurnished, for such period as may be arranged, a most desirable and attractive moderate-sized RESIDENCE, standing in ground and grass lands of about 60 acres, approached by two carriage drives (with entrance lodges). It contains handsome hall, furnished as a sitting room, and suitable as billiard room, five reception rooms, two conservatories, sixteen bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, a complete suite of domestic offices, man's bedroom, etc.; exceptionally good supply of water by gravitation, and certified modern drainage; the stabling, of a very superior character, comprises nine stalls, six loose boxes, large coach-houses, coachman's cottage, etc.; pretty pleasure grounds, including tennis lawn, ornamental pond, and wooded walks, with heronry; very productive walled kitchen garden, four glass houses, two orchards, etc. Land up to about 50 acres if required. Shooting over the estate of about 1,500 acres, and also excellent trout fishing for three miles, in a stream running through same, may be arranged for. In the immediate neighbourhood of the meets of the Devon and Somerset staghounds; two packs of foxhounds and harriers also meet in the district. Golf links and yacht anchorage five miles distant.—Inspected and highly recommended by WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, London, W. (13,286.)



AN UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY of acquiring, at times price, one of the most perfect estates in the Kingdom. The property is situate within two-and-a-half hours of London, and extends to nearly 3,000 acres with a modern MANSION, standing high in a very large park and surrounded by famous county seats. The residence has been well planned, the reception rooms are all of a large size, and the bedroom accommodation and domestic appointments are in every way ample for a family of means and distinction. It is heated throughout by hot water, and there is an abundant supply of excellent water conveyed by a gas engine. The stabling is extensive and contained in a quadrangle. The gardens and lawns are of a choice description, and contain a large ornamental sheet of water. The sporting characteristics are first-class, and there is a large extent of covert. The land is of excellent quality, well farmed by an excellent tenantry and in high condition. Included in the sale is a very picturesque model village.—Full particulars, plans, views, etc., of the Agents, Messrs. WALTON & LEE (who can thoroughly recommend the above), 10, Mount Street, London, W.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
SURVEYORS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

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SURVEYORS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

DERBYSHIRE AND LEICESTERSHIRE BORDERS.—Most conveniently situated for Burton-on-Trent and other large centres of commerce and manufacture; about one mile from a village, and two miles from a station. To be SOLD, a valuable and desirable RESIDENTIAL ESTATE of over 1,300 acres, including a whole parish and an advowson. The picturesque old-fashioned residence stands in very finely-timbered pleasure grounds and park, having southern aspect, and is fitted with a quantity of very fine old oak carvings. It contains four good reception rooms, about twenty bed and dressing rooms, and good domestic offices; stabling for several horses; coach-houses, necessary out-buildings, and cottages; a good supply of water, and appliances for making gas if desired. The pleasure grounds are of an old-world character, including extensive well-grown yew hedges, tennis and other lawns, and extensive plantations; the kitchen garden is large, walled, and very productive; there are the necessary glass houses, etc. The estate affords good shooting, and is intersected by a trout stream; there is also hunting with several packs. The whole of the agricultural land is let at moderate rentals to good tenants, and produces a good return.—Personally inspected by WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. Plans and photos. at offices. (7456.)

ONE of the most delightful moderate-sized RESIDENTIAL ESTATES, within about one hour of London, to be SOLD. It extends to nearly 100 acres of beautiful woods and excellent grassland, and includes a most convenient and desirable moderate-sized stone-built residence, standing high on sandy soil, in the midst of beautiful old pleasure grounds and gardens, and containing four reception rooms, eleven bed and dressing rooms, billiard room, bathroom, and excellent offices. There is also a moderate amount of stabling, necessary farm buildings, cottages, etc. Large sums of money have been expended upon the property in putting it into a thoroughly "up-to-date" condition. The property is situate close to a station, and in a district renowned for the exceptional beauty of the scenery and healthy climate.—Highly recommended by WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. (13,892.)



£7,000 OR APPROXIMATE OFFER.—To be SOLD, a very desirable compact freehold RESIDENTIAL and AGRICULTURAL ESTATE, situate in a pretty part of Lincolnshire, near a market town, and extending to about 300 acres of mixed arable, pasture, and woodland. The residence is a picturesque old-fashioned one of moderate size, and well suited for the occupation of the owner. The pleasure grounds, although inexpensive to maintain, are of an unusually pretty description, and include two large ponds, well stocked with fish, affording boating; good kitchen garden, and excellent extensive farm buildings. Four miles from the kennels of the South Wold hounds, affording excellent hunting four days weekly.—Personally inspected by WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. (14,538.)

NORFOLK SHOOTING (game bag about 5,000 pheasants, 2,000 partridges, 150 hares, 600 rabbits, and 200 wild fowl, etc.).—To be LET, the SHOOTING over a well-known estate (without a house) of several thousand acres, and in the midst of a highly preserved district.—Full particulars and terms of Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W. (14,202.)



IN THE COTTESMORE COUNTRY.—To be SOLD or LET for the hunting season, the above very Handsome Family MANSION, and about 100 acres of park land. The Residence contains large front hall and five spacious reception rooms. The bedroom accommodation comprises 24 bed and dressing rooms (all arranged in suites), four bathrooms. The domestic offices are very complete and suitable for a large establishment. The drainage is of a very high order; the house is heated throughout, and there is a fine water supply; stabling for eighteen horses; pleasure grounds, and shrubberies about five acres.—Full particulars of the Agents, Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W. (6821.)

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10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.



NORRIS CASTLE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

THIS widely-celebrated RESIDENCE forms part of an estate of about 150 acres, and occupies one of the most picturesque situations in the Isle of Wight. It stands on an elevated position on a bold promontory, and overlooks, across the Solent, the broad expanse of Southampton Water. The mansion, built in the Norman Baronial style, contains accommodation, sufficient in all respects for the residence of a large family, while it is also admirably adapted for the entertainment of distinguished company. The castle is surrounded by a well-timbered and undulating park, and forms an impressive and well-known feature in the coast-line of the island. Its position is unusually favoured in natural scenic attractions, commanding as it does wide and varied views of land and sea; while the climate of the locality is proverbial for its salubrity and health-giving qualities. The estate possesses to a full extent all the accessories necessary to the complement of a residence of first-class importance in regard to gardens, pleasure grounds, glass-houses, heating, lighting, water supply, offices, stabling, lodges, cottages, an excellent home farm, and such other matters essential to an enjoyable occupation of the residence. On its land boundaries the domain is entirely surrounded by a massive stone wall, and on its coast line is protected by a sea wall of great stability, forming a broad esplanade three-quarters of a mile in length. The position of the estate is unequalled for yachting purposes, Cowes Roads being highly-reputed as an anchorage, while the castle commands probably the best view of Cowes Regatta.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE are instructed to offer the above for SALE by PRIVATE TREATY. Particulars of Sale may be had on application at their offices, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

5,000 ACRES of good ROUGH SHOOTING, without a house, two hours from London, to be LET for the ensuing season. Rent to a desirable tenant only £200. The shooting is well known, and was for many years rented by a high personage up to the time of his death; good hotel accommodation on the property.—Full particulars of the Agents, Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square London, W. (6043.)



FINE SPORTING ESTATE in the Eastern Counties, between Norwich and Cromer, to be LET. The property is within a mile from a station, and about three hours by rail from town. The sporting extends to about 3,000 acres, nearly 1,000 being wood; the soil is light and well watered, and eminently suited to the successful rearing of a large head of game. The FURNISHED MANSION contains about thirty bedrooms, and stabling has been provided for eleven horses; exceptionally beautiful terraced gardens surround the residence, and the park contains several acres of ornamental water.—Recommended by Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. (7839.)

IN THE CENTRE OF THE MEYNELL COUNTRY.—To be SOLD or LET, Furnished or Unfurnished, an attractive RESIDENCE, standing on a considerable elevation, approached by carriage drive with entrance lodge, and containing front porch and hall, drawing, dining, smoking, and billiard rooms, seventeen bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, two lavatories, and spacious offices. Water laid on. First-class drainage. Excellent stabling for sixteen horses, saddle and cleaning rooms, large coach-house, and men's rooms. Attractive pleasure grounds, two well-stocked kitchen gardens, and fifteen acres of grassland; in all twenty acres. Hunting with the Meynell, Atherstone, and South Staffordshire hounds. Golf links close.—Personally inspected and recommended by Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. (14,604.)

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
LAND AGENTS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS, SURVEYORS & AUCTIONEERS,
69, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.,
And at Bromley and Beckenham, Kent.



KENT.—Charmingly placed on an eminence between Beckenham and West Wickham, the above choice **FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY**, situated in beautifully-timbered park-like lands, delightful old pleasure grounds, ornamental water, orchard, stabling, farmery, glasshouses; in all twelve acres. Price £9,000.—Apply to **BAXTER, PAYNE AND LEPPER**, as above.

KENT—TUNBRIDGE WELLS (near).—Compact little **FREEHOLD PROPERTY**, comprising a comfortable detached Residence in high position, facing south east, containing three sitting rooms, conservatory, five bedrooms, etc.; stabling, farmery; three cottages (let at £27 per annum), pretty gardens, large kitchen garden and rich meadow land, seven-and-a-quarter acres in all. Price £2,200. More land could be had.—Apply as above. (14,779).



HANTS.—The above absolutely perfect little **RESIDENCE**, surrounded on all sides by scenery of most beautiful description; **6 ACRES**; lovely grounds; four large reception rooms, eight large bedrooms, bath and dressing rooms, etc.; stabling for four; gardener's cottage. All in splendid order, and ready for immediate occupation. Price, Freehold, £4,200; or rent £160 per annum. Recommended.

BROMLEY AND CHISLEHURST (near).—A charming old-fashioned **RESIDENCE**, standing high in beautiful grounds of **8 ACRES**. Eleven bed chambers, dressing and bathrooms, good hall, charming drawing room (32ft. by 20ft. 7in.), dining room, library, handsome billiard room, etc.; first-class stabling for six; two cottages, prolific kitchen garden, glasshouses, two orchards, lawns, and fully-timbered pleasure grounds, all in perfect order. Rent £220.—Highly recommended by **BAXTER, PAYNE AND LEPPER**, as above. Photo.



BANSTEAD, SURREY.—Within about an hour of Piccadilly. Near church, post and telegraph office. One mile from station. The above superb **COUNTRY MANSION**, built in red brick (Georgian period), containing 23 bedrooms, seven reception rooms, magnificent billiard room and picture gallery; stabling for ten, and two cottages; the whole standing in charmingly picturesque and finely-timbered grounds of about **18 ACRES**. The fittings of the house have been completely modernised and are perfect in every detail. Drainage thoroughly renovated. There are two conservatories, large productive kitchen gardens, and orchard, glasshouses, etc. The meadow land is exceedingly rich and yields splendid crops. The property lies high, in a proverbially healthy district, and commands fine views of the surrounding country. Excellent society. Hunting with the West Surrey Stagbonds, etc. Price 10,000 guineas, or near offer. Personally inspected and strongly recommended.—**BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER**, as above.

SUSSEX.—Lying high, with extensive views of the surrounding beautiful country. A very substantial stone-built **COUNTRY RESIDENCE** (upon which a large sum of money has been recently spent), one-and-a-half miles from station, standing in choice grounds of about **7 ACRES**. Ten bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, three reception rooms, servants' hall, etc. Stables for four, gardener's cottage, conservatory, vineries, etc. Golf club near by. Price, Freehold, £4,500. Inspected and recommended.—Full particulars of **BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER**, as above.

BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS, SURVEYORS & AUCTIONEERS,
69, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.,
And at Bromley and Beckenham, Kent.

ALEX. H. TURNER & Co.,
199, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.
Branch Offices: GUILDFORD, WEYBRIDGE, & READING.
Telephone 2753 (Gerrard).



A BARGAIN UNPRECEDENTED.

CHEAPEST COUNTRY HOUSE in the MARKET this CENTURY.—West of England; three-and-a-half hours by four expresses to and from London daily. **COUNTRY MANSION**, and 150 acres park, beautifully placed. Very fine central hall (with gallery open to the roof), well-proportioned and large reception rooms about 18ft. high; excellent offices. Situate very high in an indescribably grand position, amidst magnificently-timbered park and woodlands, fruit and kitchen gardens, orchard, stabling, cottages, and lodges; in fact, every accessory requisite. Thoroughly in the country, yet within short drive of station, giving access to several large provincial centres. To be **SOLD**. Price £20,000, which is but little more than the value of the park and timber, and about one-tenth of the cost of the mansion. Famous golf links close by; yachting; 600 acres shooting. Plans, views, and full details.—Inspected and strongly recommended.



WOKING, one-and-a-half mile from the Junction, and only half-a-mile from the Golf Links, high on sand, with fine views to Hindhead, Chobham, and St. Marika's.—An excellently-built, picturesque, **FREEHOLD RESIDENCE**, containing three reception rooms, billiard room, eight bed and dressing rooms, fitted bath, etc. Stabling. Pretty grounds and meadow land, about seven-and-a-quarter acres; water laid on, and electric light. For **SALE**.—Highly recommended by **ALEX. H. TURNER & Co.**, 199, Piccadilly, W.



PICTURESQUE OLD MANOR HOUSE, (near Newbury, Berks).—HOUSE is modernized, stands high, and contains eight bed and dressing rooms, three reception rooms, bathroom, housekeeper's room and capital offices. Charming old shady grounds and grassland; in all about 50 acres; stabling, farmery; good water supply; excellent hunting; modern drainage. Freehold, £4,000.—**ALEX. H. TURNER & Co.**, 199, Piccadilly, W.



FORTY MINUTES FROM TOWN.—For **SALE**, an unusually charming, picturesque, and elegantly appointed **MODERN RESIDENCE**, standing surrounded by its finely timbered grounds and grasslands of about **6 ACRES**; beautiful district; near station. Golf and hunting. Contains eleven bed and dressing rooms, fine hall, three large entertaining rooms. Stabling. Cottage. Glass. —Personally inspected by **ALEX. H. TURNER & Co.**, 199, Piccadilly, W.

EXQUISITE SMALL ESTATE, WITH TROUT FISHING. VERY HIGH GROUND.—Unrivalled romantic situation. Overlooking a most beautiful valley in the Western Counties. For **SALE**, an ideal **COUNTRY HOUSE**, of moderate size, perfectly fitted and decorated in the most costly manner, and heated throughout. Grandly timbered old park and grounds, extensive walled fruit and vegetable gardens. Superior up-to-date stabling; cottages. Small home farm; range of buildings. The whole in capital order. The land includes nearly 100 acres of valuable woodlands and plantations, and there are about 50 acres rich pasture and meadow land and park.—Inspected and highly recommended by **ALEX. H. TURNER & Co.**, who have plans and full details.

ALEX. H. TURNER & Co.,
199, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.
Branch Offices: GUILDFORD, WEYBRIDGE, & READING.
Telephone 2753 (Gerrard).

WM. R. NICHOLAS & CO.,
60, PALL MALL, S.W.,
AND BLAGRAVE STREET, READING.

BY ORDER OF TRUSTEES.

KENT (NEAR CANTERBURY), 200ft. above sea.



THE above delightful **FREEHOLD PROPERTY**, known as "The Shrubbery," Barham, will be sold by auction, by Messrs. **WM. NICHOLAS & Co.**, at the London Auction Mart, E.C., on Tuesday, 8th November, 1898, at two o'clock precisely. The property is of charming, old-fashioned character (the original property being probably not less than 200 years old), and comprises a gentleman's residence, with ten bed and dressing rooms, three reception rooms, fine hall, and usual offices, embowered in grounds of some 4½ acres, timbered with some fine old Forest trees, and including lawn, kitchen garden, and paddock; stabling, cow-house, greenhouses, etc.; hunting with the East Kent foxhounds, and three packs of Harriers; shooting and fishing can be obtained; first-class social advantages.—Auctioneers offices: 60, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

SHROPSHIRE (near Ludlow).—For **SALE**, a charming **RESIDENTIAL ESTATE** of 200 acres, all pasture. There are two houses, one an attractive old-fashioned structure, approached through a long avenue, with lodge at entrance, and containing ten bedrooms, and four reception rooms.—Within a mile of station. (Fo. 10,237.)



A YACHTSMAN'S HOME.—For **SALE**, **FREEHOLD**, or to be **LET**, furnished, the above very beautiful **ESTATE**, of just on 200 acres, situated on the coast, with anchorage within a quarter-of-a-mile of house for a 400-ton yacht. The mansion contains twenty-two bedrooms, and dressing rooms, two magnificent halls, four reception rooms and offices; stabling for a dozen horses; bailiff's house and cottages.—Inspected and recommended by the agents.

FORTY-FIVE minutes of town.—Puckeridge and Essex Hunts.—To be **SOLD**, at a very low price, a delightful **RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY** of 6½ acres, standing over 300ft. above sea. The house is approached by a long drive, and contains eleven bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, and four handsome reception rooms, pretty shady gardens; stabling and lodge; land nearly all pasture.—Inspected and recommended (Fo. 9342.)

BARNET (Herts).—For **SALE**, 450ft above sea. A delightful old-fashioned **PROPERTY** of three acres. Six bedrooms, three reception rooms, and bath, square hall; stabling and prolific gardens, orchard and paddock.—Recommended from personal inspection.



£4,000 for an old **MANORIAL ESTATE** of 10 acres, within 80 minutes of London.—For **SALE**, a very **CHARMING PROPERTY**, in perfect order throughout. Standing 400ft above sea in lovely country. Eight bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms; stabling and lodge. Hunting two well-known packs. Shooting can be had; also fishing.—Recommended strongly.

£2,250 OR CLOSE OFFER, for **SPORTING FARM**, 160 acres, near Billingshurst, Sussex. A capital little farm under good cultivation; picturesque old Sussex farmhouse.

SURREY, STUD FARM.—In charming district, ten minutes from station, and in centre of the Burstow Hunt. A lovely little **HUNTING-BOX**, or Stud Farm of 30 acres. The creeper-clad gabled Residence is approached by a carriage drive, and contains eight bedrooms, bathroom, four reception rooms, and offices; stabling for ten, and men's rooms; charming old lawn, kitchen garden, and several well-timbered paddocks. To be **Let**, furnished, for the hunting season, at the low rent of £130; or to lease at £130 per annum. Moderate premium.—Strongly recommended (photos at Pall Mall.)

WM. R. NICHOLAS & CO.,
60, PALL MALL, S.W.,
AND BLAGRAVE STREET, READING.

MESSRS. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, Auctioneers, Estate Agents, Valuers and Surveyors, 9 & 10, CONDUIT STREET, W., and 23a, MADDOX STREET, W.

TOWN MANSIONS, FLATS, ETC.

Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY'S Town Offices are at 10, Conduit Street. A careful selection of available residences will be forwarded on receipt of requirements.



2,300 ACRES.—One of the most beautiful estates in the West of England to be LET or SOLD. The picturesque MANSION is seated in a well timbered park of 600 acres, and there is a sheet of ornamental water of about 20 acres.—Full particulars of Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.



FORTY-FIVE MINUTES OF TOWN,
TO MEN OF WEALTH IN THE CITY.

SURREY HILLS.—For SALE, a MANSION which could not fail to please the most fastidious. Electric light throughout; telephone laid on; decorations in excellent taste. Noble hall with gallery, winter garden, billiard room. No better stabling in England. Stud farm with 33 loose boxes. Model farm to accommodate 100 head, stock yards, yearling paddocks, hunt stables and kennels; the whole lighted by electricity, and in perfect order. Thirteen cottages. Hunting two-and-a-half miles; fishing, and excellent shooting. In all nearly 600 acres. More land can be had adjoining.—Inspected by Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.



HEREFORDSHIRE.—Freehold for SALE.—Picturesque ivy-clad RESIDENCE, three reception, seven bedrooms, bathroom; stabling for four; old-fashioned pleasure gardens, and park of seventeen acres; farmery. Salmon and trout fishing; hunting and shooting. Price £2,500; no land tax.—Full details of Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.



AN IDEAL HOME.

NORFOLK.—Queen Anne RESIDENCE, four reception, ten bed and dressing rooms, bathroom. Stabling for seven. Lovely grounds and woodlands of seventeen acres; lodge.—Property in good order throughout. Strongly recommended. Price only 3,300 guineas. Photos at offices of Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.



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VALUATIONS FOR ESTATE DUTY PREPARED AT SHORT NOTICE IN ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.



2,322. HANTS.—YACHTING.

TO BE SOLD OR LET, FURNISHED, a quaint old HOUSE built in 1720, and commanding views of the Isle of Wight. 300ft. above sea level; lovely old grounds; entrance hall, 44ft. by 17ft.; drawing room, 36ft. by 23ft.; dining room, 28ft. by 19ft.; study, and thirteen bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, etc.; stabling for ten; 68 acres; farmhouse and buildings.—Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.



SUSSEX.—With 2,500 acres ROUGH SHOOTING.—To be LET, an Elizabethan MANSION, beautifully situated and well furnished; noble hall, fine suite of reception rooms, and about twenty bedrooms.—Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 9 & 10, Conduit Street, W.



CREEPER-CLAD MANOR HOUSE.

STABLING FOR FIVE, LODGE, 50 ACRES.

BERKS.—Good hunting centre, two miles from a station.—To be SOLD, at a low figure, a pretty HOUSE, in perfect order, with lovely old gardens and grounds; three reception, seven bed, and one large dressing room; two staircases; good farm buildings; plentiful water supply.—Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

COUNTRY ESTATE DEPARTMENT, 9, CONDUIT ST., W.

MANAGEMENT OF LANDED ESTATES.

Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY are able to offer exceptionally favourable terms for the management of Landed Property in the United Kingdom. London Rents collected for Country owners, and economical control of Property ensured.



A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY SEAT.

A GREAT BARGAIN.—For SALE, Freehold, three hours of town, good hunting centre, extremely picturesque HOUSE, in good order, two halls, four reception, billiard room and saloon, and twenty bedrooms; stabling exceptionally good. Gardens of indescribable beauty; in all 50 acres. Farm home-stead, cottages, etc. Photos.—Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.



TO LET, FURNISHED, WITH SHOOTING OVER 1,500 ACRES.

TO LET from February next. This picturesque house with billiard room, picture gallery, the usual reception room, and eighteen bedrooms; stabling for six; electric light throughout; gravel soil. Hunting and fishing.—Full details of Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.



HUNTING WITH THE BERKELEY AND BADMINTON. TO BE LET, PICTURESQUE CASTLE, re-built in 1450, and now in good preservation with modern sanitary arrangements. Accommodation: four reception, billiard and twenty bedrooms, three tennis courts and lovely old grounds; nine loose boxes.—Full particulars of Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, as above.



WITHIN HALF-AN-HOUR OF TOWN.

THE above well-built HOUSE to be SOLD. Every modern convenience; gas and water laid on. Accommodation: four reception and fourteen bedrooms, bathroom; stabling of five loose boxes, one stall; gravel soil; eight acres of gardens and grounds.—Particulars of Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

MESSRS. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, For SALES and VALUATIONS,
9 & 10, CONDUIT STREET, W., and 23a, MADDOX STREET, W.

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AUCTIONEERS, VALUERS & ESTATE AGENTS,
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FURNISHED HOUSES at the **SOUTH of ENGLAND** Seaside health resorts a speciality.

TOWN HOUSES.

WANTED to RENT or PURCHASE in Surrey, Bucks., or Hertfordshire, an old fashioned RESIDENCE, containing ten bedrooms, three reception rooms and billiard room. Stabling. Grounds of about ten acres. A good price for a suitable property.—W. H., Esq., c/o Messrs. CHAMPION & BUSBY, as above.

KENT.—In one of the loveliest spots, and situate on an eminence commanding charming views. A perfect specimen of a country gentleman's HOME, substantially constructed, and standing in beautiful grounds of 27 acres. The house is entered by a portico, and comprises entrance hall tastefully paved, inner hall, with handsomely decorated and spacious reception rooms, and billiard room, ten bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, well-appointed domestic offices. Stabling, coach-house, harness room, and coachman's room. The house is supplied throughout with hot and cold water, heated with hot-water coils and lighted by electricity. Superb electric installation, which is generated by Crossley engine, with numerous accumulators, and the fittings are lavishly supplied to every apartment.—For complete particulars apply to Messrs. CHAMPION & BUSBY. The Freehold of this splendid and unique property, together with three picturesque cottages, to be SOLD at a low figure. (C. U. 6149.)

NORFOLK.—The Freehold to be SOLD of an attractive and convenient VILLA RESIDENCE, situate in an exceptionally healthy locality, containing four reception rooms, six bedrooms, three dressing, bath, and box-rooms, and excellent domestic offices; plunge bath, 16ft. by 9ft. by 6ft. deep. Amateur workshop, and forge-shop, with good out-houses, bicycle house, etc. Conservatory. Stabling. Perfect drainage. Pretty and secluded grounds.—Price of this valuable property, standing in about three acres, with additional three acres near, £1,000. (C. U. 6155.)

SUSSEX (near Burgess Hill).—A very desirable RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, consisting of over 43 acres of beautifully diversified and undulating land, with half-an-acre of ornamental water, heavily timbered and park-like in appearance. The residence, which is old-fashioned and has recently been added to, contains entrance hall (28ft. by 9ft.), drawing room (21ft. by 14ft.), dining room (18ft. by 12ft.). On first floor, six bedrooms, dressing room, and w.c. Above are five small rooms and attics. There is a brick-built lodge, outbuildings, brick and tiled laundry (with boiler), scullery, dairy. Stabling, etc., etc. Small conservatory, orchard of mature fruit trees. Good trout stream quite close. Superb water supply.—Price £4,500; or would LET unfurnished. Rent £160 per annum. (C. U. 6146.)

SOUTH DEVON.—To be SOLD, a valuable Freehold ESTATE occupying a beautiful position on the banks of the River Teign. Extensive and varied views of the sea, river, and Dartmoor Hills; approached by an avenue of limes, with lodge at entrance. The accommodation comprises capital hall, six reception rooms, billiard room, and in all eighteen bed and dressing rooms, bathrooms, etc. The charming grounds, of ten acres, consist of nice walks, lawns, terrace walk, and flower and kitchen gardens. Stabling for four horses.—Full particulars and price for the Freehold on application. (C. U. 6164.)

KENT.—To be SOLD, a desirable little RESIDENCE, situate in a healthy and pretty neighbourhood. It contains three reception rooms, five bed and dressing rooms, all lofty, bathroom (h. and c.), good domestic offices. Conservatory, good and well stocked garden. Two new and large outbuildings. In excellent decorative repair inside and out. Main drained. Good train service. The furniture might be purchased if desired.—Price £1,100, Freehold. (C. U. 6177.)

SURREY (In the healthy and picturesque district of Farnham).—To be SOLD, a well-built and appointed RESIDENCE, situate 350ft. above sea level, with south aspect, and commanding fine views. The accommodation comprises good reception rooms, six bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, lavatory, etc., usual domestic offices; the grounds of an acre, have been extremely well arranged and comprise, full-sized tennis lawn, excellent fruit and kitchen garden, ornamental pond, etc., sand and loam subsoil; modern drainage; stabling for pony. Price, Freehold, to a quick purchaser, £1,350. (C. U. 6159.)

SURREY (Godstone).—To be LET, Unfurnished, a desirable RESIDENCE, containing three excellent reception rooms, ten bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, etc.; well laid-out grounds of eleven acres; two good cottages, and stabling for eight horses. Rent £170 per annum.—Full particulars on application. (C. U. 6087.)

WORCESTERSHIRE (In the centre of a good sporting country).—To be LET, Unfurnished, a well-built and conveniently arranged RESIDENCE, standing in grounds of seven acres. It contains spacious hall (28ft. by 16ft.), three handsome reception rooms, full-size billiard room, twelve bed and dressing rooms. The house is fitted with every modern convenience to be desired, and drainage and water supply perfect; excellent stabling. Hunting with two packs; fishing. Rent £210 per annum.—Complete particulars on application. (C. U. 6000.)

KENT.—A very desirable RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY to be LET. Containing excellent halls, reception rooms, and seventeen bed and dressing rooms, with good domestic offices. Excellent stabling. The house is situate in a beautifully wooded district, and is approached through ornamental grounds, and surrounded by a miniature park; in all over 34 acres. Within two miles of two Railway Stations, good train service. Rent £300 per annum. Full particulars on application to CHAMPION & BUSBY, as above. (C. U. 6145.)

HANTS. (Situate in one of the best Residential districts, and secluded amidst Pines).—To be SOLD, a most attractive and commodious RESIDENCE, standing 350ft. above sea level, in choice grounds of six acres. It contains five splendid reception rooms, with three of smaller size, and nineteen bedrooms, bathroom, and good domestic offices. Modern stabling; eight horses. Cottage at entrance to the property. Good and numerous outbuildings. Excellent modern certified drainage.—For full particulars apply to CHAMPION & BUSBY, as above. (C. U. 6156.)

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BORDIGHERA, ITALY.—To be LET, Furnished, for the season, this charming and picturesque Villa, situated in one of the warmest and most sheltered positions on the Via del Colli, 300ft. above sea level, standing in a well cultivated garden, and commanding one of the finest views along the coast. The house is prettily furnished and decorated, and contains two reception rooms (large), four bedrooms, two servant's bedrooms (three beds), and the usual offices. Constant supply of excellent water; plate and linen. Rent 125 guineas for the season, including gardener's wages and produce of kitchen garden.—Apply to HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1086.)

SURREY.—For SALE desirable RESIDENCE, standing high amongst pines and heather, and beautiful views, containing three public rooms (including triple drawing room 35ft. long) nine bedrooms, billiard room, bathroom (h. and c.), and complete domestic offices. Grounds extending to about 20 acres, part wood and ornamental water. Large kitchen garden and flower gardens; two tennis lawns, conservatory, vinery, fernery, greenhouse, etc. Stabling for six horses. Three-quarters-of-a-mile from station and within four miles of Ascot racecourse.—For further particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1022.)



GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—To be LET, Furnished for the hunting season or a term of years, stately MANSION in large park, and with 3,000 acres of shooting. The residence contains noble front hall and inner hall with grand staircase and gallery, drawing room with large semicircular bay, breakfast room, dining room, vestibule opening on to terrace, morning room, billiard room; all the reception rooms are handsomely fitted and the decorations are of a high order. Bedroom accommodation consists of sixteen principal bed and dressing rooms and twenty-four secondary apartments. Complete and well equipped domestic offices. The water supply is from reservoir on hill worked by hydraulic ram, and the sanitary arrangements are perfect and of the most modern description. Stabling, ten stalls and eleven boxes, with excellent saddle and harness rooms, six coachmen's rooms, etc., etc. The grounds are singularly beautiful and picturesque, including rose garden, flower garden, extensive shrubberies and walks, two ornamental lakes with waterfall, boat-house and boats, and a fine walled and stocked kitchen garden, the whole comprising about fifteen acres. Shooting over the estate of about 3,000 acres (about 300 acres covered) and two good rookeries. Capital trout and perch fishing in the lakes. The property is in the Duke of Beaufort's country, and hunting with the Badminton hounds is easily obtainable six days a week, within range of fifteen miles, and the Berkeley hounds are also within easy reach. Railway station four-and-a-half miles.—Further particulars may be obtained from HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1003.)

CLIFTON, BRISTOL.—To be Let or Sold. Unfurnished House, containing four reception rooms, nine bedrooms, bathroom and the usual offices; hot and cold water, and speaking tubes from passages to kitchen; front and back gardens, two conservatories, summer-house, etc., drainage perfect, and house in thorough repair; close to high school, college, church and station.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1051.)

WORCESTERSHIRE (near Worcester).—To be LET, Unfurnished, at Michaelmas, or SOLD, an attractive, modern FAMILY RESIDENCE, situated on a slight elevation, and commanding lovely views of the Malvern Hills. It contains drawing room, with a large bay and glass door opening to the lawn, dining room, both with large mullioned windows and panelled ceilings, study, and billiard room, nine bedrooms and three dressing rooms, and complete domestic offices. There is stabling for two stalls, one loose box, double coach-house, harness room, etc., with two lofts above. The Grounds, including tennis and croquet lawns and a well wooded paddock extend to about seven acres, and an adjoining paddock of four acres. Good kitchen garden of half-an-acre. Excellent water supply and good drainage. The whole property is in perfect order. Hunting with the Croome and Worcester-shire hounds.—For further particulars apply to HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., 36, Victoria St., S.W. (1094.)

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BERKS.—To be Let, FURNISHED, for one year, from November, 1898, RESIDENCE containing three reception rooms, nine bedrooms, bathroom and usual offices; stabling for four horses, coach-house, saddle room, and two bedrooms, over stables, large kitchen garden; the house stands high on the border of Chobham Common, in ten acres of sheltered grounds, one mile from Sunningdale station, and three from Ascot racecourse; re-decorated and Furnished throughout this year, and in first-rate condition.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1090.)

HEREFORDSHIRE.—To be LET for Two years (or by arrangement) FURNISHED RESIDENCE, containing four public rooms, 12 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, and usual offices; stabling, two loose boxes, three stalls, gardener's cottage, two orchards, besides gardens, 50 acres extra land may be had if desired. Hunting with the Ludlow and North Herefordshire Hounds. The property is finely situated and commands very pretty views.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1016.)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—To be LET, FURNISHED RESIDENCE, containing entrance hall, inner hall, drawing room with conservatory opening out of it, dining room, morning room, study, eleven bed and dressing rooms, together with extensive and well equipped domestic offices, bathroom, etc., etc. Hot and cold water laid on, and hot water heating apparatus in hall. Front and back entrances. Thoroughly good stabling, consisting of four loose boxes, two stalls, and four supplementary boxes, adjacent if required. Two coach-houses, harness room, hay shed, etc. Very pretty gardens and grounds extending to about four acres, including well stocked kitchen garden, two vineries, peach-house, hot-houses, etc., etc. Hunting with Lord Fitzharding's hounds four days a week, and the Duke of Beaufort's hounds five days a week. Four railway stations, two, five, and seven miles respectively, within two-and-three quarter hours of London by fast train. Telegraph office half-a-mile, and church, etc., three-quarters of a mile.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1094.)

SURREY.—To be LET.—In the centre of the Burstow country, within easy reach of all the best meets of the Surrey Stag-hounds, only five minutes drive from a station on the S.E.R., with good train service to the city in the morning and back in the evening (one hour's journey); also within easy drive of Redhill Junction, and two other stations on the Brighton line, yet in the midst of lovely country. Good-sized COTTAGE RESIDENCE, which has been added to by present owner, complete with all modern conveniences, bathroom (hot and cold), gas in passages and offices; excellent water supply from Caterham Valley Waterworks; kitchen fitted with large range and gas stove; three sitting rooms, eight bedrooms, servants' hall, housekeeper's room or schoolroom, pantry, scullery, larder and dairy; stands in a charming garden, with prettily timbered lawn, carriage drive, and back outbuildings. Grounds extending to 28 acres; excellent stabling (just built), comprising six large loose boxes, two stalls, and two pony boxes, good coach-house for three four-wheeled carriages, and pony-cart, paved yard, two large rooms and kitchen over stables; coachman's cottage could also be had. The whole in thorough repair, and would be Let Furnished from October 1st, to April 1st, 1899; or the lease for seven, fourteen, or twenty-one years from March 1897 would be sold.—For further particulars apply HAMILTON MENZIES & Co., as above. (1099.)



KENT.—To be LET, Unfurnished, a very picturesque old MANOR HOUSE (in Elizabethan style) between Tunbridge Wells and Ashford, fitted throughout with polished oak floors and panelled walls, standing in charming pleasure grounds, and commanding splendid views. The house contains dining, drawing, breakfast and morning rooms, study, ten bedrooms, large ball-room, 53ft. by 20ft., and complete domestic offices, outbuildings include stabling (five stalls, harness rooms and two coach-houses), cow-house, lodge, etc. Good kitchen garden and orchard, tennis (two courts) and croquet lawns, shrubberies, etc. (total extent four acres), church, post and telegraph office within one mile. Soil rich loam. Rates and taxes moderate.—For further particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1004.)

WANTED Unfurnished, or partially Furnished HOUSE, containing three reception rooms, fourteen to sixteen bedrooms, billiard room, and usual offices; stabling for six, and coachman's cottage. Fishing and shooting over 1,000 acres, or more. On lease for three, seven, or twenty-one years.—Full particulars to HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1088.)

LEICESTERSHIRE.—To LET, Furnished, for the season, HUNTING BOX, containing two reception rooms, smoking room, six bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, two servants' rooms, and usual offices. Coach-house, saddle room, stabling for six horses, or more if required. Paddock. Situated in one of the healthiest and prettiest parts of the Charnwood Forest. Three-and-a-half miles from railway station, and close to the kennels of the Quorn Hunt. Rent moderate.—For full particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1084.)

WANTED.—SHOOTING (2,000 ACRES), and Unfurnished RESIDENCE, containing three reception rooms, billiard room, bathroom, about fourteen bedrooms and the usual offices, with about 2,000 acres shooting (and good proportion of coverts) and fishing; nice gardens and pleasure grounds. Hants, Wilts, or Somerset preferred, and within five or six miles of a good town, and in the neighbourhood of good society. Rent £400 to £500 per annum.—Full particulars to HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1075.)

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CADOGAN GARDENS.—To be LET, a charming FLAT in these handsome and fashionably situated mansions, containing four bedrooms, bathroom, square hall, three reception rooms, etc. Electric light, well decorated. Rent only £25. Small premium, or would be LET, Furnished.—Particulars of GEO. BERRY, SON & HISCOX.

DRAYCOTT PLACE.—To be LET, Furnished, for six or twelve months, an exquisitely decorated and furnished RESIDENCE, six bedrooms, bathroom, four delightful reception rooms, complete offices. Electric light, and every modern improvement. Terms moderate.—Particulars of GEO. BERRY, SON & HISCOX.

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MILBOURNE HALL. (Ponteland, Northumberland).—To LET, on a moderate lease, Furnished or Unfurnished, a well-built substantial RESIDENCE, pleasantly situated in the near neighbourhood of the Tynedale and Morpeth Hunts, well supplied with water, containing five reception rooms, two servant's halls, kitchens, etc., thirteen bedrooms, servants' bedrooms, bathroom, hot and cold water supply both upstairs and down; house thoroughly warmed with hot water; drainage on modern principles; stabling for thirteen horses, large cemented enclosed stable-yard; beautifully and well stocked gardens, vinery, and greenhouse; cow pasture and cow byre; shooting over 1,700 acres or thereabouts, including several large plantations and covers, and about three miles of good burn fishing.—For terms, etc., apply to Messrs. CRIDDLE & CRIDDLE, Solicitors, Cross House Chambers, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

WARWICKSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE or WORCESTERSHIRE.—Wanted to rent, or buy, a COUNTRY RESIDENCE, containing about four or five reception rooms, ten or twelve bedrooms; stabling. Good grounds; with or without land; if with shooting, preferred.—Send full particulars to WILLIAM FOWLER, PEMBERTON & BEWLEY, Auctioneers and Land Agents, 69, Temple Row, Birmingham.

ATHERSTONE AND NORTH WARWICK HOUNDS.—To be LET, for the hunting season, Furnished RESIDENCE, two hours from London, containing four reception rooms, fifteen bedrooms, bathroom (hot and cold-water), billiard room; stabling for six horses; covered stable-yard; large gardens, vineries, and conservatories. Hunting four days a week within twelve miles.—Apply COUNTRY LIFE Office, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

NORTH DEVON.—To LET, Gentleman's RESIDENCE, Unfurnished; charming garden, completely secluded, outskirts of village of Northam; one mile from capital; golf links of Westward Ho.—Particulars of GROVES-COOPER AND STAPLEDON, Bridge Chambers, Bideford.

TO be LET, Unfurnished, from March 25th next, a very desirable MANSION called the MOOR, within a mile of the town and station of Hay, on the Midland Railway, together with excellent shooting and fishing in the Wye. The mansion house is very commodious, standing in ornamental grounds, and commanding beautiful scenery, including the Black Mountains; it is approached from two principal roads to Hay by carriage drives, with lodge entrances; the gardens are excellent and extensive; the house contains entrance halls, three handsome reception rooms, and a gentlemen's morning room, five superior bedrooms, and three dressing rooms, four bachelor's and seven servant's bedrooms, with excellent offices; good stabling and coach-houses; grassland may be had with the house. The sporting, which is very good, extends over 2,000 acres, including 255 acres of covert, a waterfowl lake, and nearly two miles of fishing in the river Wye, celebrated for its salmon.—For particulars and to view, apply to Messrs. LOWE and AUDEN, Solicitors, Burton-on-Trent; or APPERLEY and BROWN, Land Agents, Hereford.

WANTED.—Unfurnished HOUSE to RENT, with option of PURCHASE preferred, within two miles of good town and one-and-a-half-hours of London. Three reception, seven bed and bathroom; stabling, matured grounds (two acres upwards). Kent preferred; possession before Christmas. Rent not to exceed £125—P.S.H., c/o, Messrs. SMITH & SON, Bookstall, Doncaster.

COVERT SHOOTING.—About 300 acres of exceptionally good Covert Shooting, situated on the borders of Herefordshire, to be Let for this season; bag limited to 700 Pheasants. This shoot will carry eight guns. Rent £200, including keepers. Railway station and hotel accommodation adjacent.—Full particulars of E. CHEESE & BRIDGE, Solicitors, Hay, R.S.O.

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TO BE SOLD.—CHÂLET VAURÉAL, Biarritz, South of France. This charming FREEHOLD RESIDENCE comprises seven bedrooms, with four dressing rooms, beautiful drawing room (leading out on to terrace), overlooking the Pyrenees and Bay of Biscay; also dining room, study, and morning (or smoking) room; good kitchen and offices; pretty conservatory, small garden; perfect sanitation. Most healthy position on the Falaise, with a lovely view. Capital golf links within reach. Hunting and shooting can be obtained in the vicinity.—Apply: Messrs. TRAFFORD & COOK, Solicitors, Northwich, Cheshire.

HUNTING BOX to LET. Furnished, with good stabling, within two-and-a-half miles of Heythrop Hounds and in the Warwickshire Hunt, and within reach of the North Cotswold Hounds. Near to first-class station, two hours from London; close to good golf links, and within easy distance of Polo.—Apply, F. C. LARDNER, Hillside, Little Compton, Moreton-in-Marsh.



SOMERSET.—TO BE LET, FURNISHED.—Detached Elizabethan RESIDENCE, facing west, and overlooking the Quantocks, standing in a fine park and pleasure grounds; in all 20 acres. The accommodation comprises three reception rooms, conservatory, twelve bedrooms, bathroom, kitchens on ground floor; principal and secondary staircase. Beautifully furnished throughout; excellent stabling for seven horses; good hunting and fishing, and shooting over 100 acres; within one-and-a-half miles of railway station. An additional hundred acres of land could be rented if required. Rent £200 per annum.—Further particulars of WILLIAM COWLIN & SON, Estate Agents, 25, Victoria Street, Clifton.

SONNING, BERKS.—To be LET, A very desirable RESIDENCE, containing entrance hall, reception rooms, ten bedrooms, bathroom, and good domestic offices. The grounds comprise large flower garden, tennis and croquet lawns, walled in kitchen garden, with vineries, greenhouses and forcing pits; good stabling and coach-house, grassland, paddock, and small farm buildings, the whole containing an area of upwards of nine acres, situated within easy reach of two packs of hounds and occupying a commanding position in the picturesque village of Sonning, and adjoining the river Thames.—For full particulars apply to Mr. WILLIAM REEVE, Holme Park Estate Office, Sonning; Messrs. WIDNELL & TROLOPE, Broad Sanctuary Chambers, Tothill Street, Westminster; or Messrs. FLADGATE & CO., 2, Craig's Court, Charing Cross.

OLD BERKSHIRE, V. W. H. & HEYTHROP.—To be LET, for the hunting season or longer, FURNISHED HOUSE; fifteen bedrooms, four reception rooms, conservatory, etc.; stabling for seven; good gardens and grounds; 1,300 acres mixed shooting. Within two hours of London.—Particulars from TREMAYNE BULLER, Esq., Swindon.

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MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
LAND AGENTS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.



GENUINE 16TH CENTURY MANSION, about seven miles from Brighton, to be LET, Furnished, with 1,500 acres of shooting, of which 250 acres are coverts; 400 pheasants have been turned down, and there are a quantity of wild duck. The RESIDENCE is entirely surrounded by a moat of running water, well stocked with trout, the whole being beautifully placed in a finely timbered park. The accommodation includes about twenty bed and dressing rooms, noble entrance hall, and a well-appointed suite of reception rooms; extensive stabling and farm buildings, also four cottages; certified drainage. The grounds embrace shrubbery walks, two tennis lawns, and there is a walled kitchen garden, with a fair complement of glass, all of which are maintained by two gardeners. Hunting four days a week.—Further particulars and orders to view of Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. Photo. (14,066.)

BURTON-ON-TRENT (near).—The Lease of an exceedingly attractive and desirable PROPERTY of about 550 acres to be assigned, or the Unfurnished RESIDENCE, Grounds, Sporting, Park and Cottages to be LET. The Mansion, of moderate size and conveniently arranged, occupies a bracing situation in a lovely park, and contains five reception rooms, sixteen bed and dressing-rooms, and excellent domestic offices; stabling for eight, coach-houses and other buildings. Charming pleasure grounds, tennis lawns, and shrubberies; well-stocked kitchen garden, necessary glass houses, four cottages, two entrance lodges, etc. Good water supply, modern drainage. Large sums have been expended upon the property, which is in excellent order throughout, and for which no premium is asked. For its size, it offers unusually good sporting, the shooting being excellent, and the Meynell Hounds five miles distant. The above farms are let on produce, with estimated rental for the park, £565 per annum.—Full details and orders to view from WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. (14,048.)

OVER 6,500 Acres of Grouse and Mixed SHOOTING, several miles of salmon and trout fishing, and a first-class well-furnished MANSION to be LET for a term. The residence is situated in the North Riding of Yorkshire, five minutes' walk from station, about two-and-a-half miles from a good town and another station, and about nineteen miles from Darlington. The mansion is placed high, though sheltered in inexpensive pleasure grounds and an extensive nicely timbered park, and contains a very handsome suite of reception chambers, a fine apartment used as museum, and with first-class billiard table, about 24 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, and an excellent set of spacious domestic offices. Stabling for ten horses, coach-house, etc. A Roman Catholic Chapel adjoins the mansion. The pleasure grounds are nicely timbered, and, although extensive, are of a comparatively inexpensive character to maintain; large kitchen garden, etc.; the shooting includes about 3,000 acres of moorland, and over 400 acres of woods. A special feature is also the fishing, which extends for about four miles in the famed River Tees, and for several miles in three streams on the estate. Coarse fishing and boating in two extensive lakes. Hunting with Lord Zetland's hounds.—Personally inspected and highly recommended by Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, London, W. (14,010.)



300 ACRE RESIDENTIAL ESTATE, in Surrey, to be SOLD or LET.—The property is situated within three miles of a station, in the vicinity of Guildford, and comprises the above old-fashioned RESIDENCE, in a park, occupying a sheltered position, on high ground, approached by a long carriage drive. The house is suited to the requirements of a moderate-sized household, and stabling has been provided for ten horses, in addition to which there are numerous out-buildings. Most of the land is pasture, but there are several enclosures of arable land and wood. Fishing obtainable.—Further particulars of Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W., who have inspected the property. (9238.)

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
VALUERS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
SURVEYORS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.



4,000 ACRES of SHOOTING and three miles of TROUT FISHING in Yorkshire to be LET, with a handsome stone-built mansion, seated in a heavily-timbered park, and immediately surrounded by the choicest of pleasure grounds. The residence, reached by three carriage drives, each with lodge at entrance, is thoroughly well appointed, and contains a suite of spacious reception rooms, billiard room, about thirty bedrooms, and complete offices; stabling for nineteen horses, and rooms for men. A river, in which are a succession of pools, flows through the estate for three miles of its course, and affords good trout fishing. Shooting over 4,000 acres. Church and telegraph office close; station, whence London is reached in three hours, seven-and-a-half miles distant. Water is supplied by hydraulic rams. Gas is laid on. The home farm of about 100 acres may also be rented.—Inspected and strongly recommended by WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. (14,551.)

IN THE BEST PART OF THE PYCHLEY HUNT, and within easy riding distance of the most celebrated metes. TO BE LET, FURNISHED, on lease (with early possession), a well known Country Mansion, standing high in a finely-timbered park, and containing over twenty bed and dressing rooms, capital reception rooms, including billiard room, and the usual offices. Stabling (mostly boxes) for about twenty horses, coach-houses, men's room, and other conveniences. Shooting over the whole estate. The Mansion has never before been let; it is not only situated in one of the best centres for hunting in the kingdom, but is an exceedingly charming summer residence. Under a mile from a railway station (main line), and close to church, post and telegraph office. Full particulars and terms of the Agents (who have personally inspected the property), Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W. (14,698.)

CUMBERLAND.—One-and-a-half miles from a railway station, main line, close to village and church, and within easy access of the county town. For SALE, an attractive FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE of about 300 acres; well wooded, and in excellent repair throughout. It comprises a well-built, up-to-date residence of moderate dimensions, situated in pretty but inexpensive grounds; there is an excellent supply of water laid on, and the sanitation is first-class; cottages and stabling; the buildings upon the property are ample and well-arranged; the land is of good quality, well-drained, and all let to good tenants; the property has been in the owner's hands for many years, and large sums of money have been expended thereon, and it may now be described as a nice country home. The above is well known to the Agents, Messrs. WALTON & LEE, Mount Street, London, who will supply particulars.



A BARGAIN IN CORNWALL (near Falmouth); thus affording exceptionally good yachting facilities. To be SOLD, at the very low price of £3,500, an unusually attractive FREEHOLD PROPERTY of about six acres. The stone Residence, as above, is most substantially built, stands high and dry with beautiful sea and land views, and contains three reception rooms, billiard room, thirteen bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, and good domestic offices. Stabling for five, harness room, coach-house, man's rooms, and farm buildings. The pleasure grounds are of a very beautiful description, and include two tennis lawns and rose garden. Very productive kitchen garden with glass houses. (Two gardeners). Hunting, fishing, and golfing. Inspected and highly recommended.—Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. (8347.)

WANTED (near Newbury, Berks.) to PURCHASE an ESTATE, embracing an area of anything up to 100 Acres, with medium-sized RESIDENCE, occupying a healthy position and with good surroundings. The advertiser is not so particular as to area, so long as he can secure a nice home.—Full particulars to be sent to "Great Western," c/o the Agents, Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, London, W.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
AUCTIONEERS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
AUCTIONEERS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

WANTED for a few years, Furnished, or Unfurnished with option of purchase preferred, old-fashioned COUNTRY HOUSE, or small manor, with not less than 50 acres of old paddock, and with facilities for rearing Hackneys and Blood Stock. House should stand high, have a good garden, and a place where rough shooting over two or three thousand acres is obtainable preferred. About three hours from London, but need not be near a station. Address J. B., c/o Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, London, W.



SOUTH DEVON.—A charming RESIDENTIAL ESTATE of about 600 acres to be SOLD. The residence, as above, commands lovely sea and land views, and contains four reception rooms, billiard room, nineteen bed and dressing rooms, and offices; stabling for seven, etc.; beautifully timbered grounds. The land, principally rich pasture, with superior farmsteads, is let, and produces a good rental. Unique facilities for hunting, fishing, shooting, and yachting; undeniably first-class social advantages.—Inspected and highly recommended by WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, London, W. (13,355.)

BETWEEN 4 and 5 per cent.—West of England, in a very lovely district.—A valuable and most desirable RESIDENTIAL ESTATE to be SOLD at a price, which based upon present rentals, will yield the above-mentioned return. The property extends to upwards of 2,500 acres of grass and arable land, and includes a good proportion of well-placed coverts, affording facilities for rearing a heavy head of pheasants. The residence is very substantially built, and of moderate size, and has all necessary stabling and outbuildings, and offices for indoor and outdoor servants. The pleasure grounds are of a very charming and old-world character, and are very beautifully timbered, possessing features which it would be difficult to excel. There is an extensive and most productive walled kitchen garden, with glass houses, etc. The estate is divided into several very convenient farms and holdings, all of which are let to tenants of good class, and the outgoings payable in respect of tithe and land tax are light. The property affords good shooting, whilst a famed river being within easy reach, there are facilities for boating and fishing. The vendors are willing sellers, and the place is well worth the consideration of all who are seeking in a moderate-sized residence and estate a lucrative investment.—Full particulars of Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W.

NOTTS. In a pretty district, half-a-mile from a station, four miles from a cathedral town, twelve miles from Newark.—To be LET, Unfurnished, a very desirable RESIDENCE, containing two halls, three reception rooms, ten bedrooms, bathroom (b. and c.), and domestic offices. Good drainage and water. Stabling for eight, two coach-houses, men's room, etc. Finely-timbered pleasure grounds, good kitchen garden, two greenhouses, and paddock; in all about 6 acres. Hunting with four packs. Rent £125. 250 acres of shooting it required. Inspected by Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, London, W. (6765.)



GLOUCESTER (on the borders of Wilts).—Valuable Freehold RESIDENTIAL and SPORTING ESTATE of 1,728 acres for SALE, comprising an exceptionally interesting old Elizabethan Manor House, with extensive stabling, beautifully timbered but inexpensive grounds, productive gardens, glass-houses and park-like surroundings, occupying a very high situation in a notoriously healthy district, one-and-a-half miles from station, G.W.R., and good market town, and within two-and-a-half hours of London. The mansion possesses historical associations, and contains a very fine oak panelled hall, large and lofty reception rooms, sixteen bedrooms, bathrooms, and ample offices. The estate, of which a large proportion is grass land, and 44 acres coverts, is divided into four farms, with homesteads, buildings, and thirteen cottages. It affords very fair shooting, and is in one of the best hunting districts in England. Full particulars, price, etc., of Messrs. WALTON & LEE, 10, Mount Street, W. (14,278.)

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE,
ESTATE AGENTS,
10, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W.

BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS, SURVEYORS & AUCTIONEERS,
69, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.,
And at Bromley and Beckenham, Kent.



BANSTEAD, SURREY.—Within about an hour of Piccadilly. Near church, post and telegraph office. One mile from station. The above superb COUNTRY MANSION, built in red brick (Georgian period), containing 23 bedrooms, seven reception rooms, magnificent billiard room and picture gallery; stabling for ten and two cottages; the whole standing in charmingly picturesque and finely timbered grounds of about 18 ACRES. The fittings of the house have been completely modernised and are perfect in every detail. Drainage thoroughly renovated. There are two conservatories, large productive kitchen gardens, and orchard, glass houses, etc. The meadow land is exceedingly rich and yields splendid crops. The property lies high, in a proverbially healthy district, and commands fine views of the surrounding country. Excellent society. Hunting with the West Surrey Stag-hounds, etc. Price 10,000 guineas, or near offer. Personally inspected and strongly recommended.—BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, as above.



BERKS. (near READING, on gravel soil).—The above comfortable residence, with charming grounds of 10 ACRES, including excellent kitchen garden, stocked with fruit trees in full bearing, tennis and croquet lawns, meadow, etc. Three miles from Sonning-on-Thames, and about a mile from a railway station. There are eight bed and dressing rooms, square hall, double drawing room, conservatory, dining room, morning room, kitchen, servants' hall, and offices. Stabling for five horses, cottage, man's rooms, cow-houses, etc. Hunting with South Berks, Mr. Garth's, etc. Price, Freehold, £3,500.—BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, as above.

KENT. (HAYES COMMON).—Within 16 miles of London, yet perfectly rural and secluded, adjoining the beautiful Common, and commanding unusually fine views of the picturesque Country. A moderate sized modern MANSION, built of red brick and stone, situate on the slope of a hill and standing in 11½ ACRES of charming, well matured ground, inexpensive to maintain. It is approached by a carriage drive with pretty five-roomed Lodge at entrance, and contains 18 bed and dressing rooms, a handsome billiard room, three reception rooms and a large hall. Ample domestic offices. Stables for four horses, greenhouses, etc. Everything in connection with the property is in perfect order. The house is heated throughout by hot water coils, gas and water laid on. Rent £350 per annum; usual fittings, etc. to be taken at valuation. Price, Freehold, £9,000. Personally inspected and highly recommended.



KENT.—Charmingly placed on an eminence between Beckenham and West Wickham, the above choice FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, situated in beautifully-timbered park-like lands, delightful old pleasure grounds, ornamental water, orchard, stabling, farmery, glass houses; in all twelve acres. Price, £9,000.—Apply to BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, as above.

BUCKS. (near Windsor).—Standing in over nine acres of charming grounds, a fine red brick and stone-built GOTHIC RESIDENCE, approached by carriage drive, with massive iron gate and lodge at entrance. The house contains five unusually fine reception rooms, billiard room, bathroom, thirteen large bedrooms, and a dressing room; stables for six; beautiful gardens with terrace, walks, etc.; small farmyard; meadow about four acres; kitchen garden well stocked with fruit trees, glass houses, soft ft. long; the entire property is walled in. Main drainage, gas and water laid on to house; stables and garden. Price, £6,000, Freehold.—Full particulars of BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, as above.

BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER,
LAND AGENTS, SURVEYORS & AUCTIONEERS,
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And at Bromley and Beckenham, Kent.

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Telephone 2753 (Gerrard).
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EXQUISITE SMALL ESTATE, WITH TROUT FISHING. VERY HIGH GROUND.—Unrivalled romantic situation. Overlooking a most beautiful valley in the Western Counties. For SALE, an ideal COUNTRY HOUSE, of moderate size, perfectly fitted and decorated in the most costly manner, and heated throughout. Grandly timbered old park and grounds, extensive walled fruit and vegetable gardens. Superior up-to-date stabling; cottages. Small home farm; range of buildings. The whole in capital order. The land includes nearly 100 acres of valuable woodlands and plantations, and there are about 50 acres rich pasture and meadow land and park.—Inspected and highly recommended by ALEX. H. TURNER & Co., who have plans and full details.

SUSSEX, Cross-in-Hand, near Tunbridge Wells, lovely district, 400ft. above sea, with charming views.—To be LET or SOLD, Freehold, a very choice LITTLE PROPERTY, with avenue drive and delightful old grounds and meadow land; in all about eleven acres. Three reception, and seven bed and dressing rooms; capital stabling for four horses, coach-house, laundry, and two extra stalls. Sandy soil. Rent £106 on lease. Price £3,500.—Inspected and highly recommended by ALEX. H. TURNER & Co.



IN the delightful district of Leith Hill, about 600ft. above the sea, in the midst of excellent society, about three-and-a-half miles from the nearest station, about one-and-a-half hours from London.—To be SOLD, this first-class FAMILY RESIDENCE, with fine hall and oak staircase, lofty reception rooms, about twenty bedrooms; very beautifully timbered undulating park land, shady woodland walks, delightful shrubberies, and gardens absolutely secluded. Stabling, several lodges and cottages, farmery; unfailing supply of excellent water, admirable sanitary arrangements, church, village, and every convenience close at hand. Inspected and highly recommended.—Offices: 199, Piccadilly, W.



TO BE SOLD OR LET, FURNISHED. GENTLEMAN'S PICTURESQUE COTTAGE (half-hour from Baker Street), perfect & secluded; beautiful surroundings. Nearly an acre of pretty old gardens. Five bedrooms, bath (h. and c.), three reception rooms. Stabling; glass; near golf. Company's water. Good drainage. Freehold, 2,000 GUINEAS. Rent on application. Sole Agents, ALEX. H. TURNER & Co., 199, Piccadilly, W.

HERTFORDSHIRE.—Fine old COUNTRY MANSION, seated in grandly-timbered park, together with Manorial Estate of 800 acres, or a larger extent if desired, up to about 2,500 acres, to be SOLD, Freehold, a few miles from a station on the main line, one hour from London. There are strikingly beautiful old gardens and grounds; ample stabling, lodges, cottages, steward's residence, farm buildings, etc.; the land is in the highest state of cultivation, of a most productive character, and upon a dry subsoil, and with the exception of the park, let to excellent tenants. The estate affords capital shooting. There is hunting with several packs of hound, and good society. The land tax and tithe are nominal. Plan of ALEX. H. TURNER & Co. Recommended.

NORFOLK (near the coast, in a bracing position, and within an easy drive of two stations).—To be LET, Furnished, for a year or longer, a well-built modern MANSION, standing in the centre of a park, surrounded by woods and plantations; it contains outer and inner halls, a suite of splendid reception rooms, billiard room, housekeeper's room, butler's pantry, and complete offices; above are fifteen bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, with hot and cold supply; ample accommodation for men; stabling for six horses, coach-house for six or more carriages, etc.; gardener's and keeper's cottages; charming pleasure grounds, and kitchen gardens with glasshouses; first class shooting over 1,140 acres, including snipe and wild duck; good private fishing; hunting in the neighbourhood; excellent society. Rent on application.—Views of ALEX. H. TURNER & Co., 199, Piccadilly, W. (E. 704.)

ALEX. H. TURNER & CO.,
199, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.
Branch Offices: GUILDFORD, WEYBRIDGE, & READING.
Telephone 2753 (Gerrard).

WM. R. NICHOLAS & CO.,
60, PALL MALL, S.W.,
AND BLAGRAVE STREET, READING.



TROUT FISHING (HANTS).—This very beautiful ESTATE, situated on a well-known trout stream, and affording some of the best fishing in the County, to be LET, Furnished, or the Freehold would be SOLD. It comprises some 50 acres, and contains some twenty or twenty-two bed and dressing rooms, five handsome reception rooms, and offices; stabling, and all necessary buildings; the gardens are of lovely character, including shady old lawns, rose gardens, shrubberies, and walks. Full particulars on application. First-class hunting and society.



GLOS. AND WILTS. BORDERS.—High and charming district. First-class hunting. Price £8,000 or reasonable offer.—For SALE, Freehold, a beautiful little PROPERTY of 200 acres, all well-timbered pasture. The residence is approached by a long carriage drive, and contains eleven bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, two large reception rooms, library or billiard room; stabling for eleven horses, six cottages and farmery. Hunting with some well known packs.—Full particulars of WM. R. NICHOLAS & Co., 60, Pall Mall, or Blagrove Street, Reading.

HERTS & ESSEX BORDERS.—Puckeridge Hunt, 45 minutes of town; £6,000 or close offer for charming ESTATE, 65 acres. Eleven bedrooms, bathroom, and four large reception rooms. One mile of station; main line. Good stabling. (Inspected).

£6,400 ONLY. Cost over £20,000. —BUCKS. FOR SALE, at this exceptionally low price, a very desirable FAMILY RESIDENCE with Grounds of between nine and ten acres. Thirteen bedrooms, bathroom, handsome reception rooms, billiard room; stabling and cottages. Beautiful grounds, kitchen garden, etc. (Recommended).

TRAINING STABLES AND STUD FARM.—Messrs. WM. R. NICHOLAS & Co., can offer a delightful RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, Stud Farm, and Training Establishment, of over 100 acres, surrounded by the finest downs in England; stabling for forty.—Bona-fide purchasers kindly apply 60, Pall Mall, S.W. (L10,252.)

KENT, £2,000.—A Bargain, as owner is going abroad.—A delightful old-fashioned RESIDENCE, within ten minutes of a station, and on gravel soil. Eight bedrooms, three reception rooms. Stabling three-and-a-half acres.—Apply, at once, WM. R. NICHOLAS & Co., 60, Pall Mall, S.W.

STOCKBRIDGE, HANTS.—For SALE, Estate (250 acres for 50 acres). The House contains five bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms, and good hall. Modern stabling, pleasure grounds, tennis lawn, orchard and walled kitchen garden; and remainder sound arable and pasture. Price £6,000, or might sell with 50 acres for £250. (L 999.)



HANTS.—In the Vine Hunt, and within easy drive of Basingstoke.—For SALE, Freehold, a charming old-fashioned ESTATE of 56 acres (another 60 acres if desired). The house stands on high ground, was modernised some time since, and contains twelve bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, three reception rooms, etc. Stabling for five horses, ample buildings, charming gardens, twelve acres of wood, and remainder of land, well-timbered pasture.

WM. R. NICHOLAS & CO.,
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MESSRS. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, Auctioneers, Estate Agents, Valuers and Surveyors, 9 & 10, CONDUIT STREET, W., and 23a, MADDOX STREET, W.

TOWN MANSIONS, FLATS, ETC.

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TO BE SOLD a grand residential and sporting estate, with an ELIZABETHAN MANSION, seated in a beautifully timbered park of 400 acres. The farms are let and possession of the mansion and shooting can be had at Lady Day next. The shooting is exceptionally good.—Particulars can be had by principals or their solicitors, of Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK and RUTLEY, as above.

YORKSHIRE (2,000 acres in a ring fence).—To be SOLD, a RESIDENTIAL and SPORTING ESTATE, with a family residence beautifully situated. The partridge shooting is good. The farms are well let, and produce about £2,000 per annum.—Further particulars of Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK and RUTLEY.



BETWEEN BRIGHTON and LONDON, MAIN LINE.

TO BE SOLD, a very beautiful ESTATE of 400 acres, situated in the prettiest part of Sussex. The HOUSE, built regardless of cost, and in perfect order, contains five reception, and fourteen bed and dressing rooms; stabling for six. The old pleasure gardens and grounds include tennis lawns, and cricket ground. The farms are let. Partridge shooting good.—Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, as above. Additional shooting, over 1,000 acres adjoining, can usually be rented.



OVER 1,000 ACRES in the Midland Counties to be sold, within easy distance of a favourite country town. There is a good family HOUSE, and stabling for six. The farms are let, and produce £1,300 per annum. The shooting is fair; last year 280 partridges were shot. The estate is compact, and arable and pasture land is equally divided.—Particulars of Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, as above.

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SOUTH DEVON.—To be SOLD, the Freehold of a compact modern GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENCE, of very pleasing elevation and situate not far from the sea. The accommodation comprises—on ground floor, entrance hall, drawing and dining rooms, library, smoking room, servants' hall, and good domestic offices. On the first floor are four bedrooms, dressing-room, bathroom, nursery or school-room, and two servants' rooms. On second floor five good bedrooms. The grounds include flower and fruit gardens, two tennis lawns, and a small conservatory, in all about one-and-a-half acres. The stabling comprises three stalls with small coach-house, and accommodation for two men. Fine rich red soil. Company's water and sanitary arrangements perfect. Hunting and fishing.—For full particulars and price, apply to Messrs. CHAMPION & BUSBY, as above. (C.U. 6226.)

NORTH DEVON.—To be SOLD, the Freehold of a detached RESIDENCE, situated in a healthy seaside resort, near to Westward Ho. The accommodation comprises three reception rooms, seven bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, good domestic offices. Good garden and tennis court. Price: Freehold, £1,200.—Full particulars of Messrs. CHAMPION & BUSBY, as above. (C.U. 6221.)

ESSEX.—To be SOLD, Freehold, an attractive and desirable property, comprising a fine old COUNTRY RESIDENCE, approached by two carriage drives, and occupying a delightful position on the confines of the most picturesque part of Epping Forest. The house contains good entrance hall, spacious reception rooms, billiard room, 17 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom (h. & c.), nurseries, complete domestic offices, laundry and out-buildings; stabling for six horses, coach-house, cowsheds, etc. Entrance lodge, containing six rooms. The grounds, of about 15 acres in all, comprise pleasure gardens of an attractive character, well timbered and adorned with specimen trees and shrubs of mature growth; sloping lawns; tennis lawn; with flower, fruit and kitchen gardens; vinery and pits; the remainder of the land consisting of pasture.—For full particulars and plan, apply to Messrs. CHAMPION & BUSBY, as above. (C.U. 6215.)

DERBYSHIRE (near Buxton and within easy distance of Peak).—To be LET, Unfurnished, in this charming health resort, a well-arranged modern RESIDENCE, standing in its own choice grounds of about three acres, and about 1,500ft. above sea level. The house, which is approached by a carriage drive at entrance, to which are two lodges, contains three reception rooms, ten bed and dressing rooms, nursery, bathroom and spacious domestic offices. Stabling for six horses and accommodation for five carriages. Modern drainage and excellent water supply. Electric light throughout. Rent £200 per annum. (C.U. 6227.)

SURREY.—A pretty detached RESIDENCE to be LET, situated in the vicinity of Weybridge, standing in grounds of about seven acres, which include large tennis lawn, kitchen garden, orchard, paddock and cricket ground. The accommodation consists of entrance hall, three large and lofty reception rooms, 11 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom and excellent domestic offices. Stabling for three horses, two coach-houses and good outbuildings. Soil, gravel. Aspect, south. Gas laid on, perfect drainage and water supply. Rent £180 per annum. (C.U. 6229.)

SUSSEX (not far from Brighton).—To be SOLD, the Freehold of an exceedingly attractive and comfortably-arranged RESIDENCE, occupying a delightful situation on the southern slope of the South Downs, and commanding beautiful views of the sea and surrounding country, and standing in its own well-kept and pretty grounds of about two acres. The house, which is built upon two floors, contains vestibule, spacious hall, and four reception rooms, 11 bed and dressing room, bathroom, complete and convenient domestic offices. Stabling for three horses, coach-house, and excellent out-buildings.—Price and full particulars of Messrs. CHAMPION & BUSBY, as above. (C.U. 6208.)

SURREY (in the charming locality of Farnham).—To be SOLD, a really unique RESIDENCE, built of red brick, facing south, sheltered on the north and commanding extensive and varied views, and standing in eight acres of well laid-out grounds, comprising terraced garden, tennis lawn, croquet lawn, walled kitchen garden, conservatory, orchard house, vinery, summer house, etc. The accommodation comprises good entrance hall, lavatory (h. and c.), w.c., inner hall, spacious drawing and dining rooms, study, and billiard room, with twelve bedrooms in keeping with the residence, two staircases; excellent domestic offices, cellarage, etc. Stabling for six horses, with six roomed coachman's house. Meadow and shed for cows. Drainage perfect. Within a few miles of several main line stations. Churches and post close.—Full particulars, and an order to view, may be obtained of Messrs. CHAMPION & BUSBY, (C.U. 6210.)

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ASHFORD, MIDDLESEX.—Old-fashioned Country HOUSE, with nice grounds of about 12 acres, and within easy reach of the station, to be LET, rent £120. There are seven bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, three reception rooms, conservatory, usual offices, and stabling for three horses. A river, with good fishing, runs through the grounds.—Cards to view of Mr. PENNINGTON, as above. (U. 1311.)

KINGSTON HILL (close to Richmond Park and Coombe Station).—Warren, and about seven minutes' walk from Morbiton and beautifully-decorated and fitted FAMILY RESIDENCE, having twelve bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, double drawing room, dining room, morning room, spacious entrance hall, and usual servants' offices. Well-matured and tastefully laid-out grounds of about 33 acres. Stabling for four horses, conservatory, out-houses, laundry, etc. Electric light throughout. Lease for SALE, or would be LET at £400 per annum.—Agent, Mr. PENNINGTON, as above. (U. 1367.)



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BANKS OF THE THAMES (Shepperton).—Highly artistic and completely furnished creeper-clad RESIDENCE, to be LET or SOLD, price £6,000, Freehold, or rent £300 per annum. The house comprises eight bedrooms, bathroom, dining and drawing rooms, library, and handsome studio, and usual domestic offices. Stabling for two horses, large conservatory, vinery, summer house, etc. The grounds include tennis lawn, fruit and kitchen gardens, meadows, etc. Boat-house.—Agent, Mr. PENNINGTON, as above. (U. 2579.)

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SUSSEX (between Eastbourne and Tunbridge Wells).—For SALE, UNFURNISHED COUNTRY RESIDENCE (built of brick with stone facings and tiled roof), 500 to 600 feet above sea level, facing south, and in the midst of lovely scenery. It contains good entrance hall with fireplace, three reception rooms, ten bedrooms, bathroom, one dressing room and usual offices. Excellent stabling, consisting of three stalls and loose box, carriage house and harness room, with dwelling rooms above. Plans are prepared for a billiard room. The house is approached by a carriage drive, having a roomy and picturesque lodge at entrance gate. Lands about 38 acres, 32 of which are grass. Golf links adjacent. Hunting with three packs of hounds. Railway station about two-and-a-quarter miles. Post Office and Church about one mile. R. C. church, three miles. Rates and taxes low.—For full particulars, apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1097.)

SOMERSET (Near Wellington).—FOR SALE, Mansion and Estate of 930 acres, in beautiful surroundings, in a very picturesque neighbourhood, and standing 200 feet above sea level. The house is a most attractive residence, exceptionally dry and contains: Entrance hall, with full-sized billiard table, drawing room, dining room, morning room leading into conservatory, and divided into four parts, study or smoking room, schoolroom, seven principal bedrooms and a dressing room, also a bedroom leading off schoolroom, and six attics; box rooms, as well as extensive and well equipped domestic offices. Sanitary arrangements excellent, there being no drains inside or under the house. Water laid on throughout, and there is also a good well. Stabling for seven horses; enclosed stable yard; large coach-house and covered way with washing places. Excellent and productive kitchen gardens, flower gardens, with room for three tennis courts, rookery, fish pond (with boat on it), shrubberies, etc. River flows through the property, and affords capital trout fishing. The house is surrounded by grass and park land. The estate consists of 930 acres, of which about 70 acres are coverts. There are four farms, which are let to three substantial tenants, and the proportion of pasture to arable is about half and half. Cottages for coachman, gardener and keeper, also several others attached to farms. One position of the property adjoins a common of about 150 acres, on which the rights of grazing stock are exercised. Meets of the Devon and Exeter staghounds within easy reach, and foxhounds, other hounds, and foot beagles hunt the district. Telegraph office about two miles, and railway station (G.W.R. main line) about three miles. The new G.W.R. route to Exeter, which will probably be opened in 1899, will bring the property 29 miles nearer London.—For further particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1106.)

SUSSEX.—For SALE, or might be LET, a FREEHOLD well built MODERN HOUSE standing in a miniature park of 75 acres, containing three reception rooms, ten bedrooms and complete and extensive domestic offices. Roomy and spacious STABLING for nine horses, coach-house, lofts and rooms over for coachman; Bailiff's house, barns, sheds, and other farm buildings. Every modern convenience and well arranged drains. Excellent water supply. The house has south aspect, and stands in a miniature park, with well-wooded grounds, commanding superb views, and is approached by a carriage drive of over a third of a mile. Good kitchen garden, pleasure grounds, tennis lawn, shrubberies and walks. Trout stream on the property, which is in the midst of lovely scenery and a hunting neighbourhood. Nearly the whole 75 acres is in a ring fence. Only one-and-a-half hours from town, railway station two-and-a-half miles. Land tax redeemed. This year the land produced over 60 tons of hay. For full particulars, apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1098.)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—To be Let, Furnished for the hunting season or a term of years, stately MANSION in large park, and with 3,000 acres of shooting. The residence contains noble front hall and inner hall with grand staircase and gallery, drawing-room with large semi-circular bay, breakfast room, dining room, vestibule opening on to terrace, morning room billiard room; all the reception rooms are handsomely fitted and the decorations are of a high order. Bedroom accommodation consists of sixteen principal bed and dressing rooms and twenty-four secondary apartments. Complete and well equipped domestic offices. The water supply is from reservoir on hill worked by hydraulic ram, and the sanitary arrangements are perfect and of the most modern description. Stabling, ten and eleven boxes, with excellent saddle and harness rooms, six coachmen's rooms, etc., etc. The grounds are singularly beautiful and picturesque, including rose garden, flower garden, extensive shrubberies and walks, two ornamental lakes with waterfall, boat-house and boats, and a fine walled and stocked kitchen garden, the whole comprising about fifteen acres. Shooting over the estate of about 3,000 acres (about 300 acres covert) and two good rookeries. Capital trout and perch fishing in the lakes. The property is in the Duke of Beaufort's country, and hunting with the Badminton hounds is easily obtainable six days a week, within range of fifteen miles, and the Berkeley hounds are also within easy reach. Railway station four-and-a-half miles.—Further particulars may be obtained from HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1003.)

SOUTH DEVON.—To LET, Unfurnished, charming seaside RESIDENCE, situated in the prettiest part of the county, on the G.W.R. main line, and within five minutes of station. The house, which faces south, stands high and commands magnificent land and sea views. It has been recently re-decorated, and contains three reception rooms, nine bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, etc., together with well equipped and ample domestic offices. Conservatory opening into drawing room. Gas and hot and cold water laid on all over the house. Sanitary arrangements new and most complete. Stabling for two horses, coach-house, harness room, etc. Grounds extending to 2½ acres, tastefully laid out in lawns, vinery, kitchen and fruit gardens, etc.—For further particulars apply HAMILTON, MENZIES & Co., as above. (1032.)

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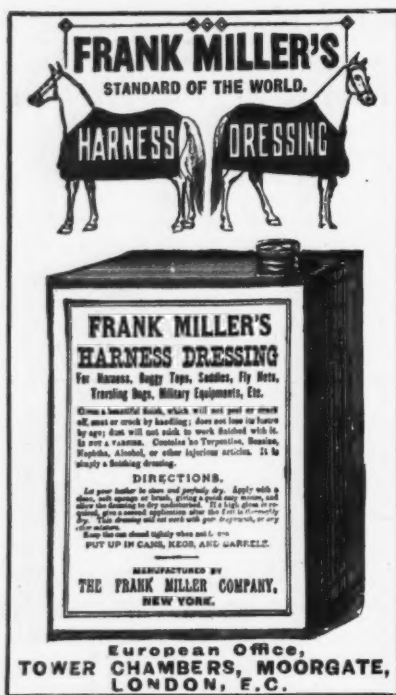
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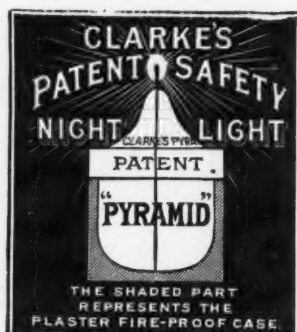
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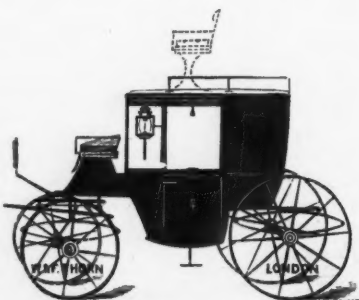
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4/11, 5/11, 6/11, 7/11
per pair and upwards.

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Every genuine Y & N Corset is stamped "Y & N Patent
Diagonal Seam No. 116" in oval of the inside lining.

Sold by the principal Drapers and Ladies' Outfitters in the United
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